

# GayCommunityNews

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## Second Ohio Woman Charges Deprogramming

By Jil Clark

CLAREMONT COUNTY, OH — Another Cincinnati area woman appears to have been the victim of a "lesbian deprogramming" scheme this year.

Cyndi Masters, the 18-year-old daughter of a prominent Cincinnati attorney Robert Masters, alleges that she was forced by her parents into a drug rehabilitation program in which staff members attempted to "cure" her of her lesbianism.

Only five months before, the parents of Stephanie Riethmiller had her kidnapped by cult deprogrammers and repeatedly raped during her week-long captivity in an attempt to alter her "lifestyle" (see GCN, Vol. 9, No. 17).

Masters told GCN that although she had abused drugs and alcohol in the past, she had been sober for over a year and a half last February when her parents led her into a trap at Straight, Inc., from which it took her two months to escape.

"They knew I'd been sober. But they believe my lesbianism is a result of my old drug problem, that I wasn't allowed to develop 'normally.'"

The director of the Cincinnati branch of Straight, Inc., Dr. Ed Stact, denies that the program staff has ever attempted to "treat" lesbian or gay male clients for homosexuality. "We are an adolescent drug treatment program," he said. "We treat chemi-

cally dependent young people for their primary illness."

Masters told GCN that Straight, Inc., counselors taunted her about her sexual preference. "In group [therapy] they'd say to me things like, 'We don't want you to go out and be lesbian again and be the scum of the earth.' I'd cry and say I miss [my lover] Terry, and they'd say, 'Don't you think that's gross?'"

Masters added that staffers harangued a gay youth, calling him a faggot.

"They didn't get more graphic than that because sex was a no-no. You didn't have sex until you're married. And when you get out you're not allowed to have girl-boy relationships for six months. They [promote] the same morals as the Baptist Church. I heard, 'Do you want to burn in hell?' a lot."

Masters' attorney, Jonathan Schiff, said that Masters told him staffers of Straight, Inc., had detained her illegally, since she was an adult according to the law at the time, and that she was coerced into signing a consent form.

Asked to respond to this charge, an attorney for Straight, Inc., Bruce Petrie, Jr., said, "I have no comment . . . except to repeat that the program has been certified by the Ohio Bureau of Drug Abuse, therefore it must meet the state requirements protecting patients' and staffers' rights."

Petrie later added that resist-

ance to treatment is to be expected in a program designed to break a person of addictive behavior.

Masters said that on February 27 she went to the Straight, Inc., compound for a pre-arranged visit with her younger brothers, both of whom are enrolled in the program. "My parents were there when I arrived. They said that I wasn't going to leave until I signed this piece of paper . . . saying I'd be in the program for 14 days. They [staff members] blocked the exit. They threatened to tie me up and confront me all night if I didn't sign. After five or six hours, I signed. They strip-searched me before admitting me."

Masters continued, "The first day I was in therapy I started screaming, 'Let me out. You're trying to brainwash me,' and the whole girl's side jumped me and pinned me down, still screaming."

Masters described the group

therapy sessions she attended. "Everybody sits in a big group for 12 hours a day in straight metal chairs, feet crossed underneath their chairs. There's a whole lot of yelling and confronting [by staffers] on the basis that you're a bad person. Someone holds onto your belt loop in back all the time so that you can't go anywhere. There's a barbed wire fence around all of Straight . . . And you don't leave for good until they've robbed you of your personality — including different hairstyle and different clothes than you came in with.

"I wouldn't look at the staffers when they were screaming at me about being a lesbian. On the 11th day I said I wanted to get out in three days when my two weeks were up. But they 'froze' me on my 11th day. After a month I realized that I'd have to bullshit my way out, so I calmed down and got out of 'phase 1.'"

In "phase 1" of the program, participants are cut off from their families and peers and live in the home of another family, some of whose members are past participants in the program, called "old-comers," said Masters. These foster homes have locks on all the doors and windows so that "new-comers" cannot escape. They are not allowed to make or receive any phone calls and are accompanied by an oldcomer at all times.

In later stages, newcomers are allowed to live in their own parents' homes, to attend school accompanied by an oldcomer and to make phone calls to certain designated newcomers.

Other Straight, Inc., centers exist in Sarasota, St. Petersburg and Atlanta. Another will open soon in Washington, D.C.

— filed from Boston

## King, Droney Defeated In Massachusetts Primary

By Larry Goldsmith

BOSTON — Former Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis will have a chance to regain his old job after an unusually large number of voters chose him over incumbent Governor Edward J.

King in the September 14 Democratic primary. Dukakis will face Republican challenger John Sears, who defeated candidates Andrew Card and John Lakian in his party's primary.

Dukakis, who in his previous term supported statewide lesbian and gay rights legislation, had won the endorsement of the Massachusetts Gay Political Caucus (MGPC).

John Kerry, who earned national recognition as a leader of Vietnam Veterans Against the War, defeated four opponents in the Democratic primary for Lieutenant Governor, including MGPC endorsee Lois Pines, who placed a distant fourth, and for-

mer Dukakis environmental affairs secretary Evelyn Murphy, who ran neck and neck with Kerry, finishing second, three percentage points behind him. State Rep. Leon Lombardi (R-Boston) ran unopposed for the Republican nomination.

In sprawling Middlesex County, which includes Cambridge, Somerville and 52 other cities and towns, former Asst. Atty. General Scott Harshbarger defeated 23-year incumbent John Droney and two other challengers for the Democratic nomination for District Attorney. Droney, who is 71 years of age, has in recent years been afflicted with a neurological disorder which leaves him unable to speak, walk or appear in public. Despite protests from constituents that his illness left him incapable of adequately fulfilling his duties, Droney insisted he was competent and chose to seek another term.

Suffolk County District Attorney Newman Flanagan won an easy victory over MGPC choice Lloyd Macdonald. Macdonald, a former Asst. U.S. Attorney, criticized Flanagan during the campaign for being soft on organized crime and political corruption, and charged that Flanagan ineffectively prosecuted several major murder trials.

State Sen. Bill Owens (R-Boston), who eight years ago sponsored a gay rights bill in the state senate, lost an attempt at winning a write-in victory in the Democratic primary, but since he ran unopposed in the Republican primary, Owens will still have a chance at keeping his seat in November. Owens will face former Democratic State Rep. Royal L. Bolling, Sr. in that race.

In Cambridge, Peter Vellucci unseated incumbent state Rep. Michael Lombardi in the Democratic primary. Vellucci has no Republican opposition, but will face independent candidate Larry Beerman in the November general election.

## Three Men Arrested In NY For Murder of Gay Man

By Larry Goldsmith

NEW YORK—Homicide detectives here have arrested three men in connection with the "ritualistic" September 4 murder of a 41-year-old University of Florida nutrition professor who apparently knew the three and had invited them to stay at his Gainesville apartment.

According to newspaper reports, police first arrested 21-year-old Gary McNichol on September 7 as he drove a car belonging to the victim, Howard Appledorf, through the streets of Manhattan. The suspect, who allegedly also held several credit cards belonging to the murdered man, led police on a high-speed car chase.

The next day, 19-year-old Paul Everson of Roslindale, Mass. and an unidentified 15-year-old youth from Woodbury, Conn. were arrested separately on New York's East Side in an area frequented by male hustlers.

All three suspects had been charged before the murder with forging a \$900 check belonging to Appledorf. Appledorf had refused a request by one of the men to post bail for him, but later requested that the charges be dismissed.

Appledorf's body was found on September 5 in his Gainesville, Fla. condominium. His head had been wrapped in canvas and covered with a plastic ice bag. Plates bearing submarine sand-

wiches had been set around the body as if to suggest a ritual meal, a circumstance police believe may be a reference to Appledorf's widely publicized and controversial theories that so-called "junk food" is no worse nutritionally than more accepted fare.

One investigator said the assailants left a note on top of one sandwich saying "something to the effect of 'Howard, we wish you were here.'" The word "murder" spelled backward and forward was smeared in peanut butter on the walls, an apparent reference to the movie "The Shining," in which a boy repeatedly sees the word "redrum"—"murder" spelled backward—before his father commits a murder.

Lt. Joseph Pirello, in charge of Manhattan South detectives, was quoted in an Associated Press story as saying the killers "broke the unwritten rule in the gay community. To kill a lover in a lovers' quarrel is one thing but to kill a guy after you've ripped him off..."

However, Pirello later denied he had made the statement. "We said that the gay community was outraged and that they gave us quite a bit of help," Pirello told GCN. "We canvassed the bars in the gay community and they gave us another two or three locations where the suspects might be seen."

A spokesperson for the Associated Press told GCN the quote had been taken from a story

in the New York *Daily News* and had been removed from later editions of the AP dispatch when it could not be confirmed.

— filed from Boston

## Philly Mayor Refuses to Sign Gay Rights Law

By Marc Killinger

PHILADELPHIA — This city's gay rights bill, passed by City Council on August 5 (see GCN, Vol. 10, No. 6) became law on September 9 without the signature of Mayor William Green.

The day after the law went into effect, Green surprised local activists with the reasons he stated for not signing it. According to the Philadelphia *Inquirer*, his aides said he was "uncomfortable about appearing to sanction the practice of homosexuality" and he apparently believes that homosexuals should not be given "the same legal status as blacks and women."

The law, passed by a 13-to-2 vote after an extensive lobbying effort by proponents, defines sexual orientation as "male or female homosexuality, heterosexuality and bisexuality, by preference,

practice or as perceived by others."

Those who lobbied for the bill were careful during the campaign to stress its human rights aspects as a way of steering attention away from the "practice of homosexuality" issue. Green's Catholicism, however, along with the eroding support for him among many constituencies in the city, may explain his failure to sign the bill. Several local activists believe that with Green's liberal support eroded and sure to swing to his managing director Wilson Goode if Goode tries for the Democratic primary nomination in May, as has been rumored, Green must reassure his Catholic and other conservative supporters, considering especially the challenge expected to come from former mayor Frank Rizzo either in the primary or in the general election in November 1983.



# News Notes

## offensive solutions

WASHINGTON — A study entitled "Sex and Sexual Aggression in Federal Prisons," which was recently released by the Bureau of Prisons, confirms what is common knowledge among prisoners but recommends solutions gay people are likely to find unacceptable.

*Update*, a gay and lesbian publication in San Diego, California, reports that the study finds that gay, bisexual, effeminate and non-violent men are typically the victims of prison rape and violence-prone straight men are typically the rapists. But, as commonly occurs with heterosexual rape, the report blames the victims. "The victim is at fault," *Update* quotes the study as concluding, "presumably because of sexually stimulating behavior . . . ."

And the study recommends that prison officials promote "a sense of immorality and sinfulness regarding homosexuality" as a solution to prison rape. It urges officers to advise prisoners not to disclose to their peers any "pro-homosexual attitudes" and not to have gay magazines or publications which contain "explicit depictions" of gay sex or "advocate homosexual activities."

The study made no recommendations concerning the attitudes of the rapists.

The survey found that sex accounts for 25 percent of all prison conflicts. Half of the victims were gay or bisexual, the study said, and half were straight. The incidence of rape in prison was found to equal that of heterosexual rape in the general population — about 0.6 percent.

The study claimed that while guards believe all prisoners should be protected regardless of their sexual preference, they are more likely to protect straight prisoners despite the fact that gay and bisexual men are likely to be the victims of rape.

## vicious attacks and terrorism

BASTROP, TX — A lesbian and gay organization was prominent among groups protesting against the Ku Klux Klan recently when it held a cross burning and rally in a field outside this small Central Texas town near Austin.

"We have come here today to express our solidarity with the people of Bastrop and to support their community effort in opposition to the attempted intimidation by the KKK," Marvin Prevost of the Austin Coalition Against the Klan said at a press conference on Saturday, August 21, the day of the Klan rally.

Prevost is co-chair of the Austin Lesbian/Gay Political Caucus, one of a number of political, student and labor organizations making up the Coalition. According to the *Daily Texan*, the student newspaper at the University of Texas, the Coalition was formed in early August after KKK Imperial Wizard James Stansfield and Grand Dragon Gene Fisher appeared on Austin news programs in an effort to publicize the rally.

The Klan rally, which drew some 150 participants and spectators, culminated in the burning of three gasoline soaked crosses. At the rally, which was protected by armed guards in military uniforms, Stansfield called upon participants to fight the "mixing of races" and communism, both of which he said were part of a "Zionist plan" to take control of all the governments of the world.

"In times of economic strife, organizations like the Klan tend to rise up and become more noticeable," Prevost said.

The Coalition's statement to the press denounced the Klan's "long history of vicious attacks and terrorism against Blacks, Jews, Hispanics, Catholics, lesbians, gay men, feminists and labor."

In recent years, some Klan groups have called for the extermination of gay people.

## conferences and the like

Guidepost '82, a conference for Midwestern lesbians and gay males, will be held in Terre Haute, Indiana, during the weekend of October 1, 2 and 3. The conference will feature keynote speakers Tom Reeves, Daniel Tsang, Terri Worman and Greg Day as well as a dozen workshops on various topics. Registration for the conference will be at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, October 1, at the Tirey Memorial Union Building on the Indiana State University Campus, one and a half blocks north of Wabash Avenue on North 7th Street . . . **Discovery '82** and the **Eighth National Conference of the Gay Academic Union** will be held jointly October 8 through 10 in Chicago. Keynote speakers will include Barbara Grier and Randy Shilts. Cost of the conference will be \$30, with student and low-income rates available. For more information, write Gay Horizons, 3325 N. Sheffield, Chicago, IL 60657 or call the community switchboard at (312) 929-HELP between 7:00 and 11:00 p.m. . . .

The **Sixth National Conference of the North American Man/Boy Love Association** will be held in Philadelphia October 9 and 10. Open to members of the organization and to accredited members of the gay press, the conference will consider proposals for strengthening the organization to withstand increasing pressure from law-enforcement agencies in the light of the arrests of five members of the NAMBLA steering committee in the past year. For more information, write NAMBLA, P.O. Box 174, Midtown Station, New York, NY 10018



Kendall Lovett

SYDNEY, Australia — Some 400 lesbians and gay men in this city marched from the town hall to Parliament House on August 26 to demand that the government of the state of New South Wales amend its Anti-Discrimination Act to ban discrimination against gay people in education, employment, public accommodations and other areas. "They dragged me out of

the closet when they arrested me four years ago," one demonstrator said. "I'm on the street tonight, not to entertain or be entertained in some bizarre mardl gras glitter but to confront those gays who shut up about their gayness and lead a secret double life." The demonstration was organized by the Homosexual Law Reform Coalition.

## constrict their anuses

MADISON, WI — A gay and lesbian organization here has filed an official complaint against a publisher who refused to print an issue of their newspaper which contained an allegedly obscene word.

The United, which published the monthly *Gay Madison*, filed a discrimination complaint in late August with the Division of Equal Rights at the State Department of Industry, Labor and Human Relations. Henry Schroeder, who in addition to operating a publishing business is a candidate for State Assembly, claims his refusal was a "moral judgement" and did not constitute discrimination against gay people, the *Capital Times* of Madison reports.

Schroeder later changed his mind and printed the paper after meeting with *Gay Madison* coordinating editor Peter Klehm "only to help them out at the last minute."

At issue is the following poem by Brooks Egerton entitled "Crusading": you/ might say/ anyone who ever/ masturbated/ is a homosexual/ then you'd/ carry on about/ all the priests/ who are fucking each other/ or the nuns/ and add/ that Jesus was no white boy/ and wonder (aloud)/ if he was gay too/ then you'd say most anything/ just to/ ice their lips/ and constrict their/ anuses.

*Capital Times* quotes Kevin McIntyre of the United as saying it was "the position of The United that lesbians and gay men have every right to talk about their lives and should not be considered pornographic because they do."

Schroeder told a reporter for the Wisconsin *State Journal*, "I think any group has a right to express its opinion; I have no quarrel with that. But I should also have the right not to print obscenities if I don't want to."

Officials at the Equal Rights Division said they could not comment on the complaint until the two sides meet to try to resolve their differences.

The Gay Atheist League of America will hold its **Second Annual National Convention** at the Americana Hotel in Houston October 15 through 17. In addition to elections for national GALA offices, the convention will feature a speech by Steve Schafersman, a biological scientist, on the subject of homosexuality and genetics and, the highlight of the convention, an address by Madalyn Murray O'Hair, founder and leader of the American Atheist League. For more information, write GALA/Houston, P.O. Box 66711, Houston, TX 77266 . . . **The Third Annual Midwest Lesbian/Gay Communications Network Conference** will be held October 15 through 17 at the Ohio State University in Columbus. Keynote speaker will be Miriam Ben-Shalom and the film "Greetings from Washington, DC" will be shown. For more information, write Midwest Conference, c/o OSU Gay Alliance, Rm 307 Ohio Union, 1739 N. High St., Columbus, OH 43210 . . . Tentative plans have been made for a three day **weekend of folk dance and music for gay men**. The proposed date is **Thanksgiving weekend**, November 26 through 28. A possible program includes workshops and sessions in contra dancing, Balkan singing and dancing, Morris dancing and shape note singing. Organizers need to assess the interest in the gay male community for such an event and need to find a location between Washington, DC, and New York City. The organizers can be contacted by writing them at Box 5, GCN, P.O. Box 971, Boston, MA 02103.

## going to get him

SAN FRANCISCO — One-time State Senator John Briggs has been ordered to pay \$10,000 in damages to the gay teacher he made an example of during the campaign for passage of Proposition 6.

According to the *Bay Area Reporter*, a judgement against Briggs was entered on September 2 in the libel suit filed against him by Larry Berner, the second-grade teacher from Healdsburg who came out publicly in 1978 to work against Proposition 6, an initiative authored by Briggs which would have banned lesbians and gay men and their supporters from teaching school in California. The measure was later soundly defeated at the polls.

At press conferences and in campaign literature, Briggs described Berner as an example of the evils Proposition 6 would eliminate. He said Berner was "the only one who really parades it around and flaunts it and seems proud of it. We're going to get him."

## not meant to be the end

BOSTON — A benefit has been planned to help relocate the art gallery destroyed in the same fire that destroyed the offices of *Gay Community News*, *Fag Rag* and the Glad Day Bookshop.

Proceeds from the Black and White Ball will help Bromfield Gallery, an artists' cooperative formed in 1975, relocate in the growing art community in Boston's Fort Point Channel area. The cooperative has leased space at 348 Congress Street to continue the shows which have become a major part of the Boston art scene.

"The fire was a major setback for the gallery," said Elli Crocker, a member of the cooperative. "But we are determined to continue. Several years ago, an astrologer charted the horoscope for the gallery which showed that the end would come amid controversy. Although the fire was controversial, we are certain that it was not meant to be the end of the Bromfield Gallery."

The Black and White Ball, sponsored by the Boston Center for the Arts, will be held from 8:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. on Friday, September 24 at the Cyclorama, 539 Tremont Street in the South End. Tickets, which are available at the door and at Bostix, are \$8 for general admission and \$5 for students. Entertainment for the evening includes comedian Gary Luciano as well as swing and rock music by Swing Street, Herb's Heard, the Catch and Children of Paradise.

## apart from the mainstream

BOSTON — Rock Against Sexism, a collective of artists, musicians and fans dedicated to providing danceable music with an explicitly political message, will soon celebrate its first birthday with a free disc party.

"Every day we are confronted with an endless barrage of sexist, racist, homophobic drivel from the radio and in our clubs," the collective said in a recent press release. "RAS, as the only group of its kind in the country, has set itself clearly apart from the mainstream, while maintaining a broad base of appeal. Support for the group is growing not only in Boston, where dozens of bands have volunteered to play for them, but throughout the entire Northeast as well."

The free RAS disc party will be held from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 26 at the 1270 Club, 1270 Boylston Street, Boston.



# NY Gays Watch Mayoral, Gubernatorial Races

By Bob Nelson

NEW YORK — With the arrival of fall, the traditional electoral season in New York is underway, with all the cheering on of underdogs, the castigation of power brokers and the planning of strategies that New York politics entails. Currently, attention is focused on the September 23 Democratic primary, in which nominations from City Council to governor will be decided.

For gay people, the most vital race is arguably for a city council seat representing a variegated neighborhood in Brooklyn. The seat is currently held by Thomas Cuite, the Council's Democratic majority leader and perhaps the one individual who has done the most to block the city's proposed gay rights bill. Cuite is challenged by community activist Stephen DiBrienza, a Democratic district leader who has spoken out for lesbians and gays, minorities and tenants.

Gay strategists have focused on this race as a test of gay and lesbian political strength in the city. DiBrienza has received the endorsement of Lambda Independent Democrats of Brooklyn, whose president, Denise Alexander, notes that "We have to demonstrate that gay people have a little political sophistication in this town."

The district at stake is a microcosm of city politics, from the gentrified town houses of Park Slope to working-class Catholic Carroll Gardens, including fringes of Brooklyn's vast Black ghetto. But Cuite's endorsement by the virulently anti-abortionist Right to Life Party may yet backfire and cost him the election.

Gay activists have been split on the gubernatorial contest, which

pits Lieutenant Governor Mario Cuomo against Mayor Ed Koch. In the early stages of his political career, Koch seemed the epitome of liberal, socially-concerned New York. In Congress, he co-sponsored the first federal gay rights bill with Bella Abzug and as mayor signed an executive order banning discrimination on the basis of sexual preference in city hiring.

But as a city administrator, Koch has turned from gadfly to manager, preoccupied with the details of the city's fiscal crisis. His social conscience has suffered as a result. At a 1980 press conference, the mayor donned an Afro wig to imitate his Black detractors, who criticized the city's closing of Sydenham Hospital in Harlem. Koch's liaison to the gay community, Herb Rickman, seems to spend his time writing press releases noting the mayor's proclamation of a Gay Market Week, for example, or the recent appointment of a Macy's vice president to the board of the Brooklyn Public Library. Koch seems to personify a certain brand of New York tacklessness, but perhaps the ultimate slap was his toothful pose with Ronald Reagan on Labor Day of 1981 while union supporters marched to protest the firing of 7,000 PATCO members in the air traffic controllers strike.

Much of Cuomo's support among gays and lesbians can probably be traced to this dissatisfaction with Koch. Nationally-known politicians like Ginny Apuzzo and Vito Russo have endorsed Cuomo, who did issue a sexual preference non-discrimination order while secretary of state. Cuomo has also received the endorsement of the state NOW and AFL-CIO organizations. Labor has contributed heavily to his campaign, while Koch's money

comes from real estate interests grateful for the mayor's support of real estate tax abatements. Cuomo opposes the death penalty while Koch has built a reputation for favoring it; Cuomo has spoken out in favor of reproductive rights while Koch downplays the issue.

Although gay rights has not been an issue in the campaign, partly because Mayor Koch has refused to debate the issue, it seems to most observers that Cuomo is the better candidate for gays and lesbians participating in the electoral process. One complicating factor is that Carol Bellamy, currently president of the City Council, would become mayor if Koch were elected governor. Bellamy has been a forceful advocate of rights for women, minorities, gays and tenants. Koch has called her "a pain in the ass" and "a horror show"; Bellamy's response was to liken the mayor to the power-hungry Yertle the Turtle of Dr. Seuss fame. Yet

Bellamy has signed on as a campaigner for the mayor, perhaps illustrating the leaps of faith that political ambition can induce.

As the underdogs and power brokers maneuvered, the city's gay and lesbian community seemed to fulfill its preordained role of quibbling over details while larger scenarios unfolded. Gay and lesbian representatives of the Koch and Cuomo campaigns were to have met on September 8 to debate the issues. However, the Koch people backed out at the last minute when the sponsor, Brett Averill of the New York *Native*, refused to limit the debate to gay issues. Lew Todd, the manager of Koch's gay campaign, apparently was unwilling to deal with Koch's stands on a wide range of issues affecting gay people, from tax abatements and gentrification to the status of minorities in the city. I was involved in organizing the debate at its earlier stages.

Throughout my involvement, the Koch group wanted to limit participation in a variety of ways, demanding that questions from the audience be submitted in writing and that presentations be chopped into a statement and response format. But Lew Todd also wanted to limit the issues to be discussed. I agreed to change the wording of a press release from "issues of interest to gays and lesbians" to "issues of concern to gays and lesbians" but only because I thought the new wording conveyed more of the urgency the debate demanded.

That change in wording was not intended to limit the debate to gay issues only. As moderator David Rothenberg commented, "This debate would be over at ten past eight if we limited it to gay issues." And Cuomo partisan Allen Roskoff asked, "Was this supposed to be a conference on white gay men?"

Politics in New York has not changed.

## Berdache Study Funded

By John Zeh

CINCINNATI — University of Cincinnati history professor Walter Williams has been on the road this summer researching the transvestite tradition among Native Americans.

The project is being sponsored by the Taft Foundation, set up by heirs of U.S. President William Howard Taft who have successful holdings in broadcasting, amusement parks and marketing research.

Previous grants from the Tafts had enable Williams to write two books; he expects another volume to result from the current research. During the year-long project, Williams will explore the

anthropological history of American Indian berdaches — males who adopted women's dress, pursuits, personal habits and speech.

Williams told *GCN* that he will study the suppression of the berdaches as an example of the "cultural genocide" of Native Americans at the hands of white U.S. officials and missionaries. His paid sabbatical from UC has taken him crosscountry, with stops at the Center for the History of American Indians in Chicago and at Sioux, Northern Cheyenne and Crow reservations in South Dakota and Montana. He will return to the American Indian Studies Center at the University of

California in Los Angeles, where he has previously taught classes on Indian Political Status. He will also meet with members of the San Francisco Gay American Indians' Group.

Williams has taught history at UC for eight years and recently spoke about research on gay sea pirates to the local Lesbian/Gay Academic Union chapter.

Williams earned his doctorate from the University of North Carolina and has been a post-doctoral fellow at Chicago's Newberry Library. He served as co-chairperson of the American Association Committee on Lesbian/Gay History in 1980 and 1981.

## Did You See?

The following appeared in the July 1982 newsletter of *Gay Men's Health Crisis*, a New York organization. The organization operates a 24-hour hotline at (212) 685-4952 for non-emergency questions about acquired immune deficiency.

### AID and what to do about it

By Lawrence Mass, M.D.

#### Who is at risk?

Despite the growing body of informed speculation about such potential risk factors as frequent sexual encounters with many partners, whatever causes AID remains unproved and unknown. This speculation includes the possible involvement of sexually transmitted diseases such as hepatitis, herpes in several forms, gonorrhea, syphilis and amebiasis. It also includes the use of such drugs as poppers (amyl and butyl nitrite) and marijuana. As *Gay Men's Health Crisis* stated in its previous letter to the gay community: "Unsettling though it is, *no evidence exists* to incriminate any activity, drug, place of residence or any other factor, conclusively, in the outbreak facing us."

#### Am I already immune-deficient?

The findings of several ongoing, hospital-based studies tentatively suggest that as many as from 80 to 85 percent of sexually active gay men in some major cities are already immune-deficient.

In recent public statements, federal health officers (in branches of the Public Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services) have speculated that "tens

of thousands of homosexual men may have the acquired immune dysfunction" and be "at risk" for developing complications. But leading observers of the epidemic are not able, yet, to answer some of the most important questions now facing us. Most urgent is the question facing those individuals who appear to be in good general health but who many have laboratory evidence of immune deficiency. Which ones are most likely to develop in time such major AID diseases as Kaposi's sarcoma (KS), *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia (PCP), *Toxoplasma gondii* infections and other life-threatening "opportunistic" infections?

You may, in other words, be immune-deficient even if you have no specific disease symptoms and seem to be in generally good health.

#### What are the symptoms?

AID symptoms are the symptoms of the rapidly proliferating number of diseases to which AID disposes its victims. Why these particular diseases, medical authorities do not really know. Because the defect as it is thus far characterized is a dysfunction of the so-called cellular branch of the immune system, anticipated diseases include those associated with or caused by viruses, fungi, protozoa and parasites as opposed to those that are caused by bacteria or are linked with allergies, which would involve the humoral branch. (The cellular and humoral branches are the two main functions of immunity.)

The most often observed diseases in the AID outbreak have been KS and PCP. They are the

two primary causes of death so far. But many others, sometimes occurring in combination with KS, PCP or both, also have been documented. These include serious, disseminated viral, fungal and protozoan infections. The symptoms of these diseases are obviously manifold.

Generally speaking, AID symptoms may include:

1. Profound *fatigue* that is not transient and not explained by physical activity or by a psychiatric or substance-abuse disorder.

2. Persistent *fevers* or *night sweats*.

3. *Weight loss* of more than ten pounds during a period of less than two months that is not related to diet or activity.

4. *Lymphadenopathy* — enlarging, hardening, painful or otherwise prominent lymph nodes (diseased lymph glands are often found in the neck and armpits).

5. Recently appearing or slowly enlarging purplish or discolored nodules, plaques, lumps or other new *growths* on top of or beneath the skin or on mucous membranes (inside the mouth, anus or nasal passages or underneath the eyelids).

6. A heavy, persistent, often dry *cough* that is not from smoking cigarettes and that has lasted too long to be laid to influenza.

7. Persistent *diarrhea*.

If you have any of the above symptoms, you should consult a physician *immediately*. Sexually active gay men who are without symptoms are currently being advised to see a physician at least once a year for a thorough physical examination and at least twice a year for complete venereal dis-

ease (VD) testing.

#### What are the diagnostic tests for immune deficiency?

Routine laboratory tests cannot rule out immune deficiency. But they help to rule out the need for more extensive immunologic testing. The routine tests include *white blood cell* and *lymphocyte counts*, both of which are often low in AID victims. *Skin testing* with certain "recall antigens" that usually elicit reactions in immunologically healthy individuals continues to have uncertain diagnostic value.

When immune deficiency is strongly suspected, the diagnosis may be confirmed by several laboratory tests that are very expensive and not routinely available. These include:

1. Lymphocyte subpopulation studies, which measure the ratio of "helper" T-cells to "suppressor" T-cells. It is this critical ratio which, in AID victims, has dropped from a "standard" number, usually a figure set by measuring the ratio in healthy, often heterosexual, "control" subjects.

2. Lymphocyte transformation studies, which measure the ability of lymphocytes to respond to stimulation.

3. Natural killer (NK) cell studies.

#### Can AID be treated?

There is no certain treatment for AID. But there *are* treatments for the cancers and infections to which AID predisposes. These remedies include chemotherapy, antibiotics and experimental agents and techniques. Unfortunately, many of

them are costly, highly experimental and rare.

If you do not have a major AID condition but are thought to be immune-deficient on the basis of lymphocyte subpopulation studies — T-cell ratios — you should be closely followed by a physician. Apart from experimental agents such as interferon and "immune modulators," however, there is no treatment for the AID condition itself.

#### Is AID contagious?

There continues to be no incontrovertible evidence to suggest that AID is overtly contagious. Informed speculation, however, suggests that an infectious agent — perhaps a virus such as cytomegalovirus or Epstein-Barr virus — is at least a critical factor in the outbreak. Federal health officers are currently paying intense scrutiny to "clusters" of the syndrome, which seem to be appearing in coastal and Sun Belt cities more than in the Midwest and Northeast and Canada.

#### How can the risk be lowered?

Although no conclusive evidence exists, so far as we know, to lay direct blame on any drug, activity, place of residence or other factors as the causes of AID, there is *tentative* evidence to suggest that risk factors *may* include frequent sexual encounters with a variety of partners. A number of physicians, many of them gay as well, have advised their gay patients to moderate their sexual activity, to have fewer partners. It is the *number* of sexual partners, not sex itself, that increases risk.



# Speaking Out — A Gay Mecca? But for Whom?

By Daniel Tsang

Text of Address given at Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day,  
San Francisco, CA, June 27, 1982.

It is often said that San Francisco is the "gay mecca." To be sure, the thousands of refugees from Amerika who have flocked here have made San Francisco the one place in the nation where one can be the most out. But if it is the gay mecca for many, it still leaves out many others.

To the world, San Francisco's gay image means the "clone" look on Castro Street. But for everyone of you who sports the "clone" look, there are a dozen others who do not fit that image. What has the lesbian and gay movement to offer those of us who are not rich, white, stereotypically attractive, or in their twenties?

Our movement must reach out and welcome and meet the needs of those who are mostly invisible or ignored — many lesbians, Third World people, young people, the elderly, the poor, the immigrant, the disabled and the other sexual minorities among us.

We must do this for many reasons, but one stands out. Divided we are weak, united we shall overcome!

Over the past year the FBI and the police in many states have again invaded our communities, in search of so-called "terrorists," "child pornographers," "child molesters," and other straight media-created scapegoats. Just over a week ago, another official of the NAMBLA was arrested and NAMBLA's list of names of people who order its publications was seized by the FBI and New Jersey police. Abroad, the Toronto police have again raided Canada's leading gay magazine, *The Body Politic*; and the police there have also seized books at Glad Day Bookshop in Toronto.

We need to mobilize against these attacks against us, and not become immobilized by division or fractional disputes. Our strength lies in our freedom to discuss openly our own sexuality, our political agenda, and the future of our movement. Our strength rests in our sexual diversity. We must build a movement that is open to sexual variety, that is anti-sexist, but which is also pro-sex, as Gayle Rubin wrote in *The Age Taboo*. We must not take sex out of the movement.

I speak as an Asian American who arrived in 1967 in California from Hong Kong. I came out in the US — and began looking for other Asian Americans lesbians and gays. I want to salute the lesbian and gay Asian Americans who are marching today from the Association

of Lesbian and Gay Asians. It is difficult for many of us to come out, and we need your support! I am also happy to report that the first gay liberation book in Chinese has been published in Hong Kong by a gay man; and that the first gay Indonesian group has been formed in Indonesia this year. Lesbians and gays are organizing in Asia and around the world — they need your support.

In this country, we are finally beginning to deal with how racism is dividing us. I call on you to all take a stand against racism, not only publicly, but also in your personal lives. How many of you will go to the politically correct demonstration against Apartheid in South Africa, for instance, but never socialize with black lesbians and gays? How many of you will only sleep with what you would call, quote, "Orientals," because you think we are so exotic and erotic? Friends, we need to rethink what it means to be lesbian or gay in this society; and not use a term such as, quote, "Oriental," a word which is offensive to Asian Americans.

In this reactionary political climate, many of the progressive reforms from the sixties are being reversed or wiped out. For example — at the University of California ethnic studies programs are under attack. An Asian American lesbian — Merle Woo — who spoke last year on this very stage — is being removed as a lecturer in Asian American Studies, precisely because of her outspoken radical politics. We can't let that happen! Around the country young gay men face prison terms for refusing to register for the draft. We must support them!

In this period of increasing repression, there is even a move in Congress, led by anti-gay Congressman Larry MacDonald, to bring back the witch-hunting House Un-American Activities Committee. It is clear that the FBI's COINTELPRO has never stopped. Among its new targets are lesbians and gay men who seek progressive change in this country. Our only chance at holding on to the gains since Stonewall, and our only chance at surviving the Reagan era with our gains intact, is to join with other progressive people and groups, and unite in a common front against the Reagan administration and New Right assaults on both our livelihood and our lifestyles. The tragic assassination of Harvey Milk proves that San Francisco is really no gay mecca. We are all, still, as Carl Wittman wrote in an early gay manifesto, "refugees from Amerika"! A lot remains to be done before we gain our liberation. Get on with it!

© Daniel Tsang 1982

## Community Voices mexico

Dear GCN Friends,

For two weeks, end-May/first June, I had the pleasure of being hosted by gay friends in Mexico City. We had begun corresponding more than one year earlier with the intention of exchanging visits, and I must say that my reception and entertainment was most hospitable and gracious. One of the highlights of my visit was also one of the highlights of my gay experience. On Friday night, June 4th, we attended the Miss Mexico Gay 1982 pageant. It was held in a large hall, with 2000-3000 people present, both male and female. My recollection is that neither gender predominated noticeably. Each state of Mexico was represented by a participant. The costumes were fantastic, gorgeous, as were a number of the participants. The pageant was preceded by a disco from about 10:30 till midnight, and the competition lasted from midnight till about 2:30.

The audience was enthusiastic about the contestants, as well as for the many celebrities from Mexican stage, screen, radio, and TV. The celebrity who interested me the most was the beautiful Maria Felix, whom I had seen many times in the movies. Though my Spanish is not adequate to follow the MC very closely, I was still able to enjoy the spectacle immensely. Moreover, my friends were ever ready to translate the most salient remarks and exchanges, so that I did not miss everything. For instance, one beautiful exchange went something like this: Spectator to MC, "You have been talking all evening about queens and have not once mentioned Maria Felix. What's the matter with you?" MC: "Friend, we have been talking about queens; the time has not come yet to speak of goddesses." Of course, along with the other celebrities, Maria Felix was introduced to tumultuous applause and was persuaded to come onto the floor and crown the very first Miss Mexico Gay, who was crowned some twenty years ago.

With these remarks as background, I would like to quote passages from letters I have received from two gay activists, Jorge Araujo and Jorge Rosetti, telling me of other gay activities since my visit.

On June 30 Jorge A. wrote: "So many things have happened since you left, one week after you left was the coronation of Miss Universe Gay, Gee! It sure was great and Jorge and me thought about you very much, wanting you to be there enjoying it. . . . The Fourth Gay Pride Parade was just great, from Chapultepec Park to Alameda Park in Juarez Ave. Down Town Police was so nice escorting us and the reaction of all the public was great. Jorge and I just adored the whole thing, we scream, jumped, danced, rang little bells, we carried the flag of the Nueve 'B' Group [the gay organization to which they belong], and we watch ourselves on T.V. So many new Groups joined this year and came people from other states and all was so colorful, the balloons were a

nice garment. So many photographers all over from all the newspapers, but at the time only T.V. has shown the parade. For the First Time was the Metropolitan Church in Mexico, with so nice T shirts. Well, in one word, I was so thrilled and so happy to be on it.

"This week-end will be 'Hollywood Gay Awards' to all the most relevant in 1981, as actors, actresses, hairdresser, designer, etc. etc. and I think will be a nice party.

"Your boy is still waiting for you to come back. I see him so frequently around Sanborns at the Angel."

On July 22 he wrote: "The new group is working O.K. [El Grupo B de Mexico dissolved and then reformed with the name Nuevo Grupo B; it has now taken the name Nueva Batalla de Mexico] and we are getting so popular and so appreciated, so many parties and gatherings. The parade of 'Gay Pride' last June 26 was a real success, you can't imagine how Police and people all along Reforma Dr. accepted us. Police was so nice and helpful, stopping the traffic for us to pass in the intersections of Reforma and other main Aves., as Insurgentes, Bucareli, etc. The whole thing was fascinating. We do really enjoyed and got so thrilled."

On 26 July Jorge R. wrote in Spanish: "I am here very well thanks to God, working and fighting so that the group may be strong and that we may attain ideals. On the 7 & 8 we have a volleyball competition at a national level with only gay participants in Sports City. [He wrote in the present tense, so that I am not sure whether he refers to past or future activity, though I think probably the future.]

[Referring to the Gay Pride Parade on June 26, he wrote] "The Gay Pride Parade was for me a very beautiful experience as it was the first time I participated in it and even more because of the representation of the New Group B. It went through the principal avenues of the city.

"Last month we attended another event that was called The Golden Years of Hollywood and they gave prizes. To our group they gave a small trophy for continuing to fight for homosexual liberation. It was held in the same hall where you saw the Miss Mexico pageant, but it was not so well attended."

These friends would like their gay liberation activities to receive some publicity in the U.S.A. I hope you may see fit to give them some coverage and perhaps to publish the photos.

I enclose a check to help in a small way to recover from the loss of the fire. I regret that I cannot give more at this time, but I know that many small contributions add up. I would hate very much to be deprived of this worthwhile publication.

In gay love,  
Glenn L. Sitzman  
Clarion, PA

## continuing commitment

Dear GCN,

AFSCME's passage of a resolution endorsing gay and lesbian civil rights legislation gives us all cause to celebrate and I want to thank you for prominent coverage of this important event (Vol. 10 #2).

I do, however, want to express my concern about the tone of the article. Gay Rights National Lobby's behind-the-scenes role was to help focus the support that was already growing throughout AFSCME. The passage of this resolution could not have happened without that internal support and AFSCME should be applauded for its continuing commitment to issues of social and economic justice.

Credit for this victory should be shared among all those who helped in the effort, especially AFSCME delegates and officials, for it was truly a result of teamwork.

Finally, while there is currently no formal "GRNL Labor Task Force," we do plan to continue working with organized labor and we encourage input from the gay and lesbian community.

In unity,  
Susan F. Green  
Legislative Assistant  
Gay Rights National Lobby

## labor

Dear Editor:

Two letters of recent memory have broached a subject that I hope will not be ignored. Rob Schmieder warned of questionable solicitations for volunteer workers by a profit-based company and Allen Young restated his objections to the lack of monetary compensation in much of the gay journalistic establishment.

Time and again we are told of "natural" alliance of gay people and working people (among others). Yet, how often do we read about specifically gay labor issues?

I have two jobs typesetting in San Francisco. One employer is gay, the other is not. I get paid better at the non-gay establishment. I am the same person (not any more gay or less gay from job to job) doing the same work, yet I get paid more money at one job. The value of working in a gay environment (if it exists at all) stops when my rights as a person and as a worker are limited. For those who think that it may be better emotionally working among those of my own kind, I say that bigots and racists are not my kind, no matter how homosexually inclined. It is an unfortunate truth, but my experiences tell me that homosexual men tend to be more closed-minded than we would like to believe, especially among the entrepreneurial class.

It is important to read how the New Right and bigots of all stripes are oppressing us. I think it would be much more valuable to learn how we oppress each other, especially in the working environment. I wish that this would become an issue to be discussed at great length in your pages. Porter Mortell  
San Francisco, CA

"friends of gcn" present  
a night at  
The Mudd Club  
New York City \$4 cover to benefit GCN.  
8:00 pm  
(77 White St., near Broadway)  
Wednesday, September 22

## "objective"

Dear GCN:

Here's a little something to help you during these hard times. Sorry it's not more, but Reagan's "trickle down" hasn't given me a drop.

I really enjoy reading a lesbian and gay newspaper without all the sexist advertising. Those who dislike GCN's "political correctness" can buy the 'we'll print anything that sells' *Advocate*.

Every news medium has political views. GCN's is left wing (fortunately). There is no such thing as objectiveness in the media — no one can sit back like a god and determine with their divine virtue what is "objective" and what is biased.

Those who say they're "objective" are hypocrites. Just look at how the "objective" mainstream (i.e. straight) media has been treating the lesbian and gay community for years. Those who seek objectiveness are chasing a fantasy.

Now just a quick note on gay and lesbian busi-

ness: Those who think there's something inherently progressive about gay and lesbian business can read the *Advocate* or other publications that orient to richer members of the community. Personally I don't see anything progressive in charging customers more simply because they're lesbian or gay.

Yes, there are a *small* minority of business people who are left wing, but by and large business people are in the conservative sector of the community.

I like a paper that doesn't follow "the line" of advertisers who would like GCN to orient to richer (generally white and male) people so they could sell more products.

Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,  
Andy Thayer  
Chicago, IL

\$4  
Chicago  
Friday, October 1

A fundraising caberet to benefit GCN  
at  
Crosscurrents  
Wilton and Belmont  
organized by the Stonewall Committee



# Community Voices

## fortuitous circumstances

Dear GCN:

I was appalled by Randy Shilts's letter (GCN, July 10, 1982). This letter is a tantrum, equivalent to a child throwing himself on the floor, flailing his arms and legs, and screaming until he's red in the face because things do not go his way. It is hardly appropriate to an adult author and journalist.

I'm just back from a year in San Francisco. During my year there, I saw Mr. Shilts at a number of autographing parties and heard him speak at such organizations as The Gay Academic Union.

San Francisco has been able to achieve what it has in the area of gay rights due in large part to the small size of the city. There are just over 700,000 people in San Francisco. And there are a great many gay people there. Most of these gays came to SF to "be gay" before being anything else, and these people generate quite a bit of political energy. Mr. Shilts himself admitted at the Gay Academic Union session that he came to live in the Castro to "be gay." Cities such as Boston, New York and Philadelphia are much larger than SF and people do not come to those cities primarily to "be gay." Every thinking person understands this, but to use this as a tool to put down Boston (and New York as Shilts did when he was there) only shows one's abysmal ignorance, one's willingness to settle for simplistic, obvious explanations.

I just recently finished reading *The Mayor of Castro Street*, though I brought my copy last fall at Noe Books so I could get Mr. Shilts' autograph on it. (It increases the value of a first edition.)

I was very disappointed with it. It is a pop biography. The book alternates between highs and lows. The high scenes are intended to infuse the reader with gay pride and the low scenes are sentimental, intended to bring a lump to the reader's throat and a tear to his/her eye.

Shilts said his inspiration for the book was James A. Michener. If Michener had been my inspiration, I would keep it to myself. From what little I've read of Michener, his books seem to be simplified regurgitations of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* pasted together with weak plots and sold by the pound.

Before reading *The Mayor of Castro Street*, I'd read several reviews which questioned the accuracy of many things discussed in the book and which made very convincing cases to support their criticism. At the Gay Academic Union, Shilts attributed Randy Alfred's charges of inaccuracy against the book in his article in *The Sentinel* to the fact that Alfred wanted to be hired as a fact checker for the book but Shilts couldn't afford that. Thus, according to Shilts, Alfred's later criticism is mainly a case of sour grapes rather than accurate criticism.

During the years that Harvey Milk was in San Francisco, I was in and out of that town but never stayed for more than three months at a time. Thus I am not in a position to judge the accuracy of much of the book's content. However, among the pictures in *The Mayor of Castro Street*, there is one captioned "Harvey Milk on the Plymouth Savoy in which he and Joe Campbell moved to Texas in 1957." In the photograph shown, Harvey is sitting on the hood of a Ford. This error caused me to wonder whether this was actually a picture of Harvey on his way to Texas or on his way to a bar-be-que on Long Island. My discovery of a little error like that caused me to wonder how many other little errors there were in the book and how many larger errors there might be.

I've noticed that whenever one presses Shilts too hard about errors in the content of his book, he shifts the subject to the book's sales. This, perhaps, is part of the Michener influence.

It seems to me Mr. Shilts came to write *The Mayor of Castro Street* by a fortuitous chain of circumstance. He just happened to be an out-of-the-closet gay who was in the right place at the right time. He has subsequently confused this chain of coincidence with true literary and journalistic talent. Another man or woman will come along, do all the detailed research, check for accuracy, interview all the proper people, and present us with the definitive biography of Milk. I am quite willing to wait. There is no rule that says there can be only one Milk biography.

Some people at the age of 30 (Mr. Shilts' age) can be very young. In calling the staff of GCN "kids" I think Shilts was misapplying the word. He should have applied "kid" to himself. He's just a kid who's had some good luck and it's inflated his ego a little bit. He needs to be brought down a peg or two. I hope he has the capacity to learn and gain some perspective on himself.

One final note to Mr. Shilts: I am a real person, though I am not a mover and shaker in the gay world so none of your gay friends will have heard of me. I am a school teacher. I am signing my real name at the end of this letter. And there is not a single out-of-the-closet gay elected—or appointed—official in this little burg where I live in the Pocono Mountains. So if you're going to throw a tantrum over this letter, you'll have to use a different tactic than the one you used on Will James.

Cordially,  
R.E. Pipher  
Stroudsburg, PA

## sexism/games

Dear GCN:

I'd like to respond to the letter by Robert Ellgas that appeared in the August 7 issue of GCN. Robert criticized GCN for paying so little attention to the Gay Olympic Games that are to take place from August 28 to September 5 in San Francisco.

I, too, participated in the Gay Pride Run in New York that Robert found so "exiting." However, my impressions of the event were different. After the race, drawings were held for a variety of prizes, the purpose of which seems to have been to promote a variety of New York commercial establishments. After a woman was selected as the recipient of a gift certificate from a boutique called "The New York Man," the m.c. at this event chortled that "Well, she'll probably be able to use it anyway." Rather than any affirmation of gay pride, I found the event competitive, commercial and sexist. Somehow, I couldn't avoid the impression that it was strictly ornamental, especially since we have not yet won our rights and we are subject to both political and physical attacks because of our sexuality.

My objections to the Gay Olympic Games are similar. While its organizers seem to have avoided the taint of commercialism, the promotion I have seen for the event—print ads in GCN and the *Advocate*—have shown pictures of men. While I don't object to pictures of men in themselves, I do object to the one-sided, male-oriented way in which this event has been promoted. In a society where sexism is rampant, we should be able to count on the organizers of gay events to counter that sexism.

Let me share with you, dear culturally deprived GCN readers, the insights of the "Peanuts" cartoon strip that appeared on August 8. Peppermint Patty and her friend are watching a sports program on television, which Peppermint Patty criticizes for saying nothing about women. "You didn't say anything about Joanne Carter, or Sally Little, or Hollis Stacy, or Billie Jean King, or Rosie Casals or Sharon Walsh!" exclaims Patty to the mute television set. "What do you want to watch next?" says Patty's friend. "There are some old movies on the other channels—'The Men,' 'A Man for All Seasons,' and 'All the King's Men.'" Murmurs Patty, "I can't stand it...."

Neither can I. Any gay-sponsored event that does not feature both sexes in its promotion does not deserve our patronage. What Robert Ellgas urges on GCN is that it adopt the style and coverage of the *Advocate*, which devotes its pages to sports, entertainment, business and a whole range of puff pieces on gay bars and resorts. Yet publisher David Goodstein laments, issue after numbered issue in his opening column, that nobody is getting involved in politics when the movement most needs activists. I can't help thinking that the kind of "lifestyle" coverage presented by the *Advocate* contributes to the complacency that Goodstein so deplores.

GCN, keep the hard political coverage! Information does the most to form a political consciousness, and I suggest that Robert Ellgas inform himself.

Cordially,  
Bob Nelson  
New York

## everywhere

Dear Friends at GCN:

Some weeks ago a friend told me about a blind lesbian living alone in the northern part of Israel, in Afula. According to my informant, this woman was completely out of touch with the gay community and very lonely, so I decided to contact her and see whether she'd like a visitor. As a result, I drove up to Afula one Saturday (that being my only day off as most Israelis work a 5½ or 6 day week).

Naomi Tragash lives in a little two-room wooden house, the last of its type in the area, surrounded by neat stucco one or two family homes. As her blindness gradually advances (she can still see large print) she seems to have retreated to a solitary life listening to the radio and taping cassettes of interesting programs. Most of her limited income seems to go towards the cassettes and food for herself and for her two dogs and cats.

I have been in touch with Naomi by phone, but haven't been able to return since, on my way back to Netanya, my beloved "Taranta" (my 1964 Peugeot) suddenly began belching clouds of black smoke and, altho I've gotten her into functioning order, she has reached the stage in life when she should not make too strenuous trips; however, I would like to share with you all a poem Naomi wrote:

Whither goest thou  
Oh winter wind?  
Hear you I can; but see not  
Since I'm blind.  
I hear the birds —  
Their flight, their song  
And many other sounds all day long:  
Sounds of children in high fettle;  
Whistling sound of boiling kettle;  
Gurgle, drip drop of water from the tap;  
Purr of pussy in my lap.  
All these sounds are loud and clear  
To a sightless person keen of ear.  
Naomi Tragash  
House #1A Givat HaMoreh  
Afula, Israel

It would be nice if someone could write to Naomi. I'm sure she'd appreciate letters written in large clear script or print. She does not read Braille. A cassette letter would be great and could be used over again many times.

My love to you all,  
Ilana Weinstock  
Netanya, Israel

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## Join the GCN

We are pleased to announce that we now have 65 Sustainers — that's only 35 away from our 1982 goal of 100. Consider taking us closer to our goal and joining the "GCN 100." Our new Sustainers this month hail from such diverse places as New York City; Nashville; San Francisco; Rockland, Maine; Traverse City, Missouri; Maumee, Ohio; and Keene, New Hampshire; to say nothing of the ten new Subscribers in the Boston area (including Cambridge, Somerville, Jamaica Plain, Norwood, Watertown, Gloucester and the South End).

This week we want to hear especially from procrastinators who have been putting off becoming a Sustainer for a while, enthusiastic softball players, and Johnny Mathis fans!

## THE GCN SUSTAINER PROGRAM

☐ YES, I/We would like to become a GCN sustainer and help to build a Financially Stronger GCN.

I/We pledge to contribute

<input type="checkbox"/> \$120	<input type="checkbox"/> \$180	<input type="checkbox"/> \$240
<input type="checkbox"/> \$360	<input type="checkbox"/> \$420	<input type="checkbox"/> \$480
<input type="checkbox"/> \$300	<input type="checkbox"/> \$540	<input type="checkbox"/> _____

The number of installments to be made to fulfill this pledge is . . .

☐ one ☐ two ☐ four

name \_\_\_\_\_

address \_\_\_\_\_

• Please enclose first installment with this mailing.

• All individual sustainers names will be kept strictly confidential.

• If the sustainer is a *group* or *organization*, may we publish your name in our sustainer newsletter? ☐ yes ☐ no.

• Your comments are welcome; please enclose with this coupon.

Mail to: GCN sustainers, 22 Bromfield St., Boston, MA 02108

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# Boston Shoppers Guide

# Gays and U.S. Security Are You Now Or

By Marshall R. McClintock

"Never permit a homosexual in the program. The opportunity for blackmail is too great," a dismissed gay employee once told Gordon Dean, an early chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission. While revealing the depth to which self-oppression can go, this statement also reveals a central idea in the thinking of security officials in the federal government. The tools for conducting gay witchhunts have been in place since McCarthy's days. With the FBI and D.C. area police investigating allegations of links between Capitol callboy services and foreign agents, and the media flap over accusations (now admitted to be false) of Congressmen's molesting teenage pages, it seems that there are the makings of an anti-gay witchhunt in the nation's capital. The federal security clearance program would be the means by which one such purge would be conducted.

Prior to World War II there was no organized security program in the federal government. During the war and particularly in its cold war aftermath, U.S. officials became paranoid that military and technical information would fall into foreign hands. The mystery of the atomic bomb was reified into The Secret, a single, all-powerful formula locked away in the bowels of some Defense Department laboratory which miraculously assured our country's new-found dominance in world affairs. The result was a complex system of classifying information into various categories of restricted ac-

cess. Only those who possessed the appropriate level of clearance were allowed access to the information in that category. To hold a federal job or a job with a government-contracted private business requiring access to restricted information means being subjected to an investigation by security officials of that particular department or agency. Since the mid-1950s approximately 20% of all working Americans have had to undergo federal security investigations.

Under Eisenhower's Executive Order 10450 signed in 1953, individuals "afflicted with sexual perversions" among others were banned from holding security clearances. This ban grew out of Senator Joseph McCarthy's campaign against homosexuals in government, particularly in the State Department. Reports before congressional committees indicate that between 1947 and 1953, 425 gays either voluntarily or were forced to resign from the State Department and between 1953 and 1955, some 847 lesbians and gay men were forced out of the Civil Service, 147 in the State Department alone. The Executive Order only made official what had already been happening.

Run by enthusiastic officials who consider their task to be of the greatest importance, each federal agency has devised its own procedures and criteria for granting clearances. Moreover, there appears to be wide latitude given to employees with little or no legal training in handling security clearances. Nevertheless, gays have been fairly successful in ob-



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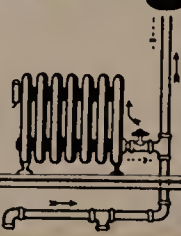
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# Clearance Have You Ever Been ...?

taining clearances. Over the past several years, no gay person who has fought the denial of a security clearance has lost a case. But no one knows how many have resigned out of fear, have not fought back, or have been subjected to hours of humiliating interrogation by security officials and psychiatrists in order to finally obtain a clearance. In any case, the crucial variable appears to be a person's willingness to challenge the system.

The major legal breakthrough involving security clearance issues occurred in 1960 when the Supreme Court held in *Greene v. McElroy* that the Department of Defense had no authority to create a security clearance system that did not respect minimum due process standards. Prior to that ruling, security officials quite literally operated inquisitions. Applicants might not be told the exact nature of the questions raised about their suitability or given access to all the information used in considering their application for a security clearance. One did not have the right to confront witnesses making allegations, and standard rules of evidence did not apply.

Following *Greene v. McElroy*, Eisenhower issued Executive Order 10865 which implemented a broad range of procedural safeguards into the clearance program. Such safeguards provided individuals with the tools to fight against arbitrary decisions of security officials.

The groundbreaking gay case was *Grimm v. Laird* in 1971. Grimm's homosexuality came to the attention of security officials when an *unsuccessful* blackmailer reported Grimm to the FBI. Even though his reliability was clearly demonstrated, his clearance was revoked. An appeals court overturned the case on the grounds that *no sufficient rational nexus* was shown by the government between Grimm's homosexual conduct and protecting the national security. Simply showing that a person was a homosexual was no longer grounds for immediate denial of a clearance. The burden of proof was being shifted from the individual to the government by requiring that there be some rational connection between a person's sexuality and a possible security risk.

The rational nexus requirement was affirmed in later cases. That did not mean that gays could now easily get clearances but that the government had to become more subtle in denying them. Also consistently throughout these cases the courts have upheld the government's right to pry into the applicants' sexual behavior as long as it can be construed as reasonably

## A Security Interview Sampler

*Here's a sampling of typical questions asked in a Department of Energy Security Clearance interview in Washington state. There were a total of fifty-one questions on the original list.*

1. We have information which may have a significant bearing on your eligibility and your continued eligibility for a Department of Energy Access Authorization and security clearance. Are you agreeable to discussing these matters with me?
2. Have you engaged in sexual acts with other males?
3. Do you consider yourself to be a homosexual?
4. Approximately how many homosexual acts have you engaged in? Can you not give me a precise answer simply because it is

such a large number that you cannot count them?

5. How recently have you engaged in homosexual acts?

6. When did you first engage in homosexual acts?

7. With about what frequency have you engaged in homosexual acts?

8. Could you give me an estimate as to the number of times per year?

9. Would you identify the nature of homosexual acts that you've engaged in, without going into detail? Please identify them by name: Fellatio? Anal intercourse?

10. How many different homosexual partners have you had?

11. How do you meet your homosexual partners? Is there a special place where you meet them here?

*continued on page 12*

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BORN  
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Ladies Against  
Women

by John Kysper

Recently I received a press release from the infamous Ladies Against Women (L.A.W.) celebrating the demise of the E.R.A., which the group insists upon calling the "Equal Restrooms Amendment."

Among the accusations leveled against this subversive piece of legislation are the following: "The E.R.A. is pornographic, putting the word s-x in our constitution. The E.R.A. would force girls to become soldiers and rape and pillage peasants. The E.R.A. would encourage gay marriages and the subsequent tragic epidemic of gay divorces. The E.R.A. would integrate bathrooms and force ladies to learn to tinkle standing up. The E.R.A. would legalize 'equality of rights under the law,' in such short simple language that it could pass as part of the Bill of Rights, and be terribly confusing to youngsters learning about a Lady's special self-sacrificing role in life."

L.A.W.'s next project is to repeal the 19th Amendment, because "Winning the vote changed the way Ladies felt about power, and began to taint the way they acted in their husbands' homes and in Man's world." The communique adds: "It is suffering, not sufferage, that keeps us up on our pedestals. And if God hadn't wanted ladies on pedestals, He never would have made us shorter than our husbands." The group endorses Mandatory Motherhood as part of the Family Proliferation Act, and it closes its press release with these ominous words: "L.A.W. supports the Moral Monopoly. We have a Monopoly on Morality. God, Inc., is on our side!"

Ladies Against Women has by now achieved a certain notoriety for its pointed satire of the anti-E.R.A., anti-gay, "pro-life" agenda of the Right — "Let us go back to the good old days, whenever they were." It began as a creation of the Plutonium Players, the San Francisco Bay Area political theater group which in 1980 launched the "Reagan for Shah Committee." Since the beginning of this year, L.A.W. "chapters" have joined Pasadena's annual Doo Dah Parade (a spoof on the Rose Bowl Parade), picketed Phyllis Schlafly in Cleveland and in Boston, President Reagan in Norman, Oklahoma, and Jerry Falwell, again in Cleveland.

At the end of May Plutonium Players/Ladies Against Women presented "an evening of consciousness lowering" for three nights at Berkeley's Julia Morgan Center for the Arts. One month later the polyester-clad members of L.A.W. marched with N.O.W. (Normal Obedient Wives?) in what would be awarded the title of "Most Outrageous Contingent" in the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade. Among its catchy chants were: "Bye, bye, E.R.A., patriarchy's here to stay," "Hit us again, hit us again, harder, harder!" and the rallying cry, which was joined enthusiastically by people on the sidelines, "What do we want? **NOTHING!** When do we want it? **NOW!**"

The grim lack of humor that seems to characterize the Right Wing makes it the perfect foil for well-aimed humor. This group possesses the rare ability to parody the Right's positions by carrying them a few steps further and making them look utterly ridiculous. Thus it sponsors "front" groups like the Voice of the Unconceived ("sperms and eggs are people, too, yet billions are murdered daily"), the National Association for the Advancement of Rich People, the Physicians for No Responsibility and the National Association of Hand Grenade Owners.

I first heard of the L.A.W. early last year during the Day in the Park for the E.R.A., a rally held every March in Golden Gate Park, when I received a shocking pink leaflet entitled "Ladies Against Women **D**emands **R**equists," with the word "demands" scratched out and "requests" written in. It declared, among other things, that "59 cents is too much — it's unladylike to accept money for work," "Recriminalize sex — restore virginity as a high school graduation requirement" and "Make America a man again — invade abroad."

Recently GCN interviewed Gail Williams, who plays Mrs. Virginia Cholesterol ("My real name is Mrs. Chester Cholesterol"), widow of an oleomargarine magnate.

GCN: I guess I should congratulate you for having started a national movement. Could you tell us a little of the history of the Plutonium Players?

Gail: We started out five years ago as a simple street theater group. I first saw Plutonium Players in a Plutonium Tour of the Bay Area in 1977 that was given by the People Against Nuclear Power. It was an interesting event: There were six people with put-together costumes — apparently from a free box, and not thrift store. They called themselves Plutonium Players and had a few appealing skits together, but very weak theater skills. Because I have no theater

WHAT DO WE  
WANT? **NOTHING!**  
WHEN DO WE  
WANT IT? **NOW!**

## A chat with a Lady

training, my immediate thought was, "Wow! This is so loose I could do it, too."

For a while I got into more serious aspects of anti-nuclear work: I did legal and scientific research, presented slide shows and talked about nuclear technology, in order to organize people to go down and blockade at Diablo during the first big occupation, in 1978. By that time I was wanting more and more to do theater, and since this group already existed and met once a week, it was a good way to get into performing. Since then, we've just gradually increased the time commitment and number of rehearsals — it's taken over our lives. Now we're trying to figure out a way we can fund our activities and make it a living.

GCN: How did you develop?

Gail: We changed gradually from being an anti-nuclear agit-prop theater group that did mostly skits about nuclear power into a group that started taking on other issues. First was the real obvious connection where we did a couple of pieces about nuclear power that also tied in multi-national corporations that control people's lives. Then we began being invited to events that were a little divergent, where we would think, for example, "What material do we have on housing?" and then we'd have to come up with some things on rent and property. It would not exactly tie in, but a little bit of that and some other pieces about surveillance in the nuclear state seemed to go together really well. Making those connections is still the thing that feels most important.

### "Reagan for Shah"

GCN: When did you start Reagan for Shah?

Gail: In early '80 at the beginning of the presidential campaign, when Carter sounded like we were going to invade Russia and reinstitute the draft, people at campuses just went crazy. KPFA (a Pacifica-foundation community radio station in Berkeley) was going to broadcast a teach-in to be held on the steps to Sproul Hall at the University of California in Berkeley. We called and asked if we could become part of the progrm. They said, "Well, maybe, but since we changed the location to indoors, we really need something on Sproul Steps to draw people inside."

We decided to do a "protest" of the event, since that often draws more attention than the event itself. So we organized a rally to Stop the Peace. We got students involved and called friends who'd performed before, and said, "Can you come up with a two-minute speech from a Right Wing perspective that is clearly satirical and shows the fallacy of the logic of the character?" People did wonderfully, we had just a great selection of characters. Some of the pieces and characters that we still do came from that rally. We decided we needed an endorsing coalition and sat up late one night and made up a list of endorsing organizations. Ladies Against Women was not one of the first endorsers; it actually took several months to think of a good women's organization that sounded clear. We had the Voice of the Unconceived, which is our gametes' rights group.

GCN: Another Mother for World Domination?

Gail: Another Mother for World Domination was there, certainly. The sponsoring group was Students for War in Berkeley; several members of Berkeley Students for Peace were behind that.

The Reagan for Shah movement came out of that action. Reagan just seemed to us — particularly being in Berkeley — as symbol of the worst possible candidate, and also the most ideal person for the C.I.A. to back in order to just have a coup and dispense with the expensive bureaucratic red tape of an election, which certainly costs the taxpayers a lot of money, interrupts our favorite TV shows (*laughing*). It's a ridiculous convention to follow, so we felt the C.I.A. would be really happy to put Reagan in office. As soon as Bush was declared his running mate, we could just see it happening — but unfortunately they decided to go through with the whole pretense. We really would have preferred to see tanks, but what can you do (*laughing*)?

So Virginia Cholesterol and A. Tad Slick, who was Ronnie's Hollywood press agent and very sleazy, and several others went to the Republican convention in Detroit. Until that time Virginia Cholesterol had been a minor character: I was doing two or three characters at that time and doing a lot of costume changes. Going all day on the street, I really couldn't do costume changes and had to stick to one persona. We would stay up at night and talk with community people from Detroit who wanted to do characters. We would make picket signs, put out a satirical press release, then in the morning xerox the press release as soon as we could so we could use it as a handout, get into our costumes, drive downtown, and spend all day and evening in the street with picket signs that said such things as "Off the Poor" and "Reagan is America's Great White Hope."

I was a little apprehensive at first about whether some of

the many unemployed black auto workers would be offended, but they loved it: They would laugh and applaud, they were one of the best audiences that I've ever seen. In Detroit the economy is just so traumatic there's no question about it. Some of the liberals that were around were unsure at first, [they'd say] "What is this?" and "Who *are* you?" — but they tended to like what we did. And the Republicans would say things like, "Why aren't these people working?" and we'd say, "Why aren't you working?" What are you doing being a delegate at a Republican convention? Don't you have something better to do?"

GCN: How did they take that?

Gail: They managed to be pretty unruffled. Especially Republican women with "Stop the E.R.A." buttons. I find those people infuriating, and so I would walk up and just completely gush over them: "Oh dearie! It's so nice to see you! Oh my goodness! I see you're wearing a "Stop the E.R.A." button — isn't that a *disgusting* thing?!" I'd start talking about wanting to limit freedom of choice and wanting a really strong government: "Climb into the coup with power under the hood," and stuff like that. They would say things like, "Oh, very clever. I assume that this is a joke, very clever." They just would get extremely rigid.

GCN: They didn't see the humor in it at all?

Gail: No, but they've been unamused all their lives, so they're good at brushing it off. It made for some wonderful interactions. Passersby and reporters enjoyed us and we felt really supported. The cops, however, took us very seriously and did a lot of surveillance with those chintzy video cameras. We would turn around at them and say, "Hi mom! Hi dad! Do we pass the audition?" Immediately they'd pull the cameras away and pretend to be filming something else because, obviously, they didn't want their supervisors to know that we were watching them.

At that time one of our spokespeople was Anita Tyrant. I had actually done the character before in Berkeley as a two-sentence joke in the middle of a song, but one of the people in Detroit wrote an Anita Tyrant speech, which was very savage. It usually worked pretty well with gay audiences, and pretty badly with some supportive straight audiences because they couldn't understand the savage satire. This was our "burn faggots" speech, which explained the whole history of witch burning and where the word "faggot" came from, saying that we've got to solve the energy crisis. "What was good enough for the Dark Ages is good enough for the Reagan years" was the punchline. It's really nasty, but very informational and very clear. I really, really like that piece — but there are always a few people who come up and say, "You know, that's really tasteless." Yeah, well so's Another Mother for World Domination stuff, and so's our Unleash the C.I.A. stuff. It's an interesting thing: A lot of times right where the satire's uncomfortable is where people themselves have been ambivalent about it, can actually imagine taking it seriously.

GCN: That's scary.

Gail: Yeah, it is. In humor doing anything dealing with sexism or racism or homophobia, a lot of it is really knowing who the audience is and making sure who you're communicating with, because humor is a personal thing and varies tremendously. Another example of that is some of the things we've done about racism that have played very well in a city, especially with a fairly mixed racial audience.

GCN: For example?

Gail: Our Homelands Apartments commercials. The whole concept of Homelands Apartments is the perfect community where you never leave, and there's bars on the windows so we don't need prisons. The end of it is: "In South Africa they call it apartheid, in America we call it apartments." It works really well for urban dwellers; people understand exactly where the irony is. When we performed it in Davis, out in this rural agricultural college town that's only an hour from San Francisco, a few people seemed to like it; but a lot of people were confused — they didn't know if we were making a racist statement and really saying we should lock black people up and throw away the keys. The fact that they couldn't be sure of that was really alarming. We have just begun to learn about what kind of assumptions audiences make. They have to get enough clues so that they can understand that it's satire. We've done that performance style with unbelievable costuming, such as glasses with no lenses and play money stuffed out of pockets, just completely out-of-style clothes. Even so you still get people who ask, "Are you *serious*?"

### Ladies Against Women

GCN: Was Detroit the birthplace of Ladies Against Women?

# Upstaging the Right

Gail: Pretty much, just as one of the endorsers of Reagan for Shah. In Detroit we had ten people as spokespeople for probably sixteen groups. Virginia Cholesterol always had several groups. I just couldn't resist making up new organizations all the time, depending upon what we were talking about. Virginia was affiliated with Ladies Against Women. Also there's a woman there who played Phyllis — at that time it was Phyllis Shapely, which we later decided was an inappropriate pun name. There have been a lot of others kicking around, like Shifty and Shit-Fly, which are brutal, but off the mark.

GCN: Now she's Phyllis Shaft-Lee?

Gail: Yes. It's not our best. We always try to upgrade the pointedness and the accuracy of the jokes. At that time we had Phyllis and Virginia as the Ladies, and we had Anita as our guest heroine — she would walk in holding an orange and say she used to be Miss America and a fair amount of pitterpatter, and then she got into her incendiary rap.

GCN: When did Mrs. Edith Banks get into the act?

Gail: Well, Edith Banks was also a character who was created in Detroit by one of the Detroit people, with a different speech at that time. She wasn't concerned at the time with the issues of Ladyhood in any sense; she was concerned with the average income of the delegates at the Convention, and other choice statistics. She thought that a \$47,000 a year average income, although well within the realm of the middle class, still wasn't quite ruling class enough. She was upset that while the poor have always known how to take buses, with increasing fuel shortages and prices in our nation, she might have to take a bus — and it's very hard to find a bus in Beverly Hills and places like that.

GCN: That was also the birth of the National Association for the Advancement of Rich People?

Gail: Yeah, before that it had been on our poster as one of our endorsing organizations, but that was the actual birth of a platform and a spokesperson. When we got back to the Bay Area, Selma Vincent started doing that piece with some changes, because it was slanted to the Convention, then wrote a couple of really nice pieces. Her landlady speech was, I think, classic. She talks about how just recently her driver noticed these little animals with pointy noses and long tails scurrying around, and she had specifically warned her tenants that they couldn't have pets.

GCN: With her home up in the Berkeley Hills, trashing the Bolshevik Communist Alliance [B.C.A., the local Left-liberal political organization Berkeley Citizens' Action]?

Gail: Yes, right, the Bolshevik Communist Alliance. That's regional. One of the things we've realized as we started to get requests for scripts is that a lot of things are very pertinent to local issues, and the B.C.A. is not going to be recognized in other areas. Because we don't have an awful lot of time for writing scripts but try to put more emphasis on rehearsing and performing, we send things out and say, "Rewrite this, if it's appropriate. We do like to be credited with the original ideas, but it's just a starting point."

We did that with the Reagan for Shah campaign and started setting up chapters in different cities. People did different things: There was a man in, I think, Minneapolis who had a department store mannequin with a blonde wig in a shopping cart, or a wheelbarrow. He had this mannequin out on the street with him and introduced the dummy as Nancy to passersby and presented a platform for world domination.

A year and a half ago at Women's Day in the Park in San Francisco, we decided to take Ladies Against Women and make a platform.

GCN: Oh, the "Requests." That was the first time I saw those.

Gail: We put that together that morning. We put costumes on, went down to the local xerox shop and watched them stare at us while they made copies for us. Then we went out with our picket signs, which we'd also just put together, marched into Golden Gate Park, passed out the list of "Requests" and did extemporaneous speaking from various places. We didn't have a lot of material yet, so we took a lot of questions and answers and did a lot of improv. It was fun; I had a good time with that.

GCN: So this was the maturation of the Ladies Against Women as one of your main features?

Gail: Yeah, that's when we got a platform together and began a real movement. Also, because we were passing out flyers that people could tape to their refrigerators, we started getting letters from people who were interested in

what we were doing. We performed at conferences like the Reproductive Rights National Network last fall. Some of the people there were very interested in doing some Ladies Against Women things in their home towns, and we got letters from people who were planning events. We sent some scripts, chants and picket sign slogans, and they came up with more. Some women from the Long Beach chapter of N.O.W. wanted to take L.A.W. to Pasadena for the Doo Dah Parade, which is an annual spoof of the Rose Bowl Parade — Doo Dah is a really nice community tradition.

GCN: How long has it been going on?

Gail: I think it was the fourth year. There are some contingents that are regulars each year, which get most of the press coverage because they're expected: The executives with the briefcase drill team, all of whom supposedly actually work in stocks and bonds — they're mostly men, and a few women, impeccably dressed in gray flannel suits. They pass off briefcases and do twirls with absolute stone faces. A shopping cart drill team also marched with carts "borrowed" for the day from Safeway and people with paper bags over their heads doing an "Ode to the Unknown Shopper."

So there's a lot of really good things, most of which were not overtly political but which have interesting cultural-political implications. But this year there was the Ladies Against Women contingent, which had about thirty people in it, all with colorful picket signs and huge flower-rimmed banners. The unit included a bunch of Nancys in red suits with little fur collars, holding pieces of china. It was a beautiful event, very inspirational. It got a lot of attention and was on television.

Pretty soon, some of the other people who had been at the Reproductive Rights conference phoned to ask for ideas and did an action to meet Phyllis Schlafly in Cleveland.

GCN: That was where it started?

Gail: That was the first actual confrontation. Phyllis doesn't come to San Francisco, so what can you do?

GCN: Go to her.

Gail: Right. That's why we have to organize. As soon as we had some pictures in the L.A. *Times* that made us look credible, I sent them off to various women's magazines, including Ms., which did a nice little writeup in April, about the Doo Dah Parade and our political satire. Because it has such a huge circulation we got a lot of letters. People wanted to do actions. Other groups have copied those actions, so it's spread farther than we know.

Our stage show is probably tighter than what people have worked up on short notice. Certainly it's tighter than the first time we did this. But there's nothing like having a bunch of good chants and making up a contingent that's supposedly agitating in support of Phyllis.

Mock adulation is one of the most effective ways that you can put someone down. Phony positive response drives politicians crazy. If they're interrupted by applause, they can't say, "Stop harassing me, you people should go back to Russia." Overzealous applause can be very, very divisive. You can cheer at the mention of anything that is pseudo-patriotic for ten minutes. I don't know how long they carried it out in Cleveland, but it's great fun to be so infuriating.

GCN: A friend was telling me he was listening to a radio talk show that Phyllis [Schafly] was on, and somebody from the Ladies Against Women called up and started saying all these outrageous things, the logical extension of the anti-E.R.A. platform. He said she seemed unsure whether she was being put on or not. Are you familiar with that incident?

Gail: I did a call-in here in San Francisco when Phyllis Schlafly was on KCBS' radio talk show "Afternoon Magazine." Phyllis took local questions by long distance phone. I had three pages of notes of what Virginia Cholesterol wanted to say. I sat there on hold all afternoon, and they put me on as the last caller and said, "One question and take your answer on the air." I had all this stuff and had to do all this insane condensation. It sounded really batty, but one nice thing about doing this character who's rather illlogical is that if I don't structure the argument well, it's all the better. I started out by gushing: "Phyllis, you're certainly the lady I admire most in the world, and I have your picture taped to all of my home electrical appliances . . . I want you to comment on the idea of paternity rights of men who choose rape or incest as their *personal* means of perpetuating their family lineage? And also, what about repeal of the vote?" And she said, "Uh, well, certainly we want women to vote." She didn't exactly respond to any of it, but she sounded quite ruffled.

GCN: Do you have any future plans for the Ladies Against Women, or are you going to retire it like you did

## Against Women



Photo: Teresa Mueller

"The ERA — the Equal Restrooms Amendment — is destroying the fabric of American family life." Left to right: Edith Banks (played by Selma Vincent), Mrs. Chester (Virginia) Cholesterol (Gail Williams), and cheerleader Cherri Pie (Francesca Graziano).

the Reagan for Shah Committee?

Gail: I think that the Human Life Amendment, Family Protection — all that garbage that's in Congress now — is going to force us to stay active for a while as Ladies Against Women. In some ways I'm bored with some of our material, but as long as people who haven't heard it before still like it, I can get past that. Also, we got a very good response from the performances that we did three nights in Berkeley, working a "consciousness-lowering program" into a stage show.

GCN: You started out as a guerilla theater group, but now you perform mainly in theaters, or put on shows like you did last fall in Berkeley's Ho Chi Minh Park. What else can you do?

Gail: We also perform a lot at demonstrations, between speakers. Sometimes we do that in the guise of marching on and taking over the stage, with Ned Shrapnel of our Men's Auxiliary (and the National Association of Grenade Owners) saying, "Enough of this garbage!" and waving a plastic machine gun.

GCN: You come on as a pseudo Right Wing group?

Gail: Yeah. We come on as "guest disrupters." That's one of the things that we do. Sometimes we do a selection of short pieces, and introduce ourselves as entertainment. I like the ability to do several short pieces as different characters — it's satisfying as a performer to do that. But the mystique of having a character that has a well developed identity, that can stay on stage for a while and talk with the audience, is really wonderful, sort of like playing Santa Claus. (Yes, Santa, there is a Virginia Cholesterol!)

GCN: Since we're almost at the end of our tape, is there anything else that you want to add?

Gail: I think there's a lot of incredible talent out there, and we see it at demonstrations all the time. The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence formed for the Three Mile Island parade, and this kind of thing happens all the time with people who have enough, well, crazed delight. It's just something that takes over you. Then you follow up with self-criticism and practice. If you're willing to stick with it I think almost anybody can get a good performing ensemble together that has good political content, and the place to start is usually demonstrations.

The Ladies Against Women/Plutonium Players can be contacted at: 1600 Woolsey Street, Box 7, Berkeley, CA 94703; or call: (415) 841-6500.

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# Not Amiss

## Chan Is Missing

**Chan Is Missing.** Written, directed and produced by Wayne Wang. With Wood Moy and Marc Hayashi. At the Nickelodeon. Running time: 80 minutes.

By Cindy Chin

The first shot of Wayne Wang's \$20,000 black and white film epitomizes what follows in the next hour and a half. The viewer sees a taxi windshield reflecting city buildings which sporadically give way to glimpses of the driver's face. "Rock Around the Clock," sung in campy Cantonese, fills the background. We soon learn that Jo (Wood Moy), a not-so-recent immigrant from China, is the cab driver. He introduces us to his wit when an obviously American male voice enters the cab. Jo's voice recites, "One one thousand, two two thousand . . ." The American voice interjects, "So, do you know any good Chinese restaurants around here?" As Jo breathes out, "Three three thousand," his voice over says, "It always happens within the first three seconds."

Set in San Francisco's Chinatown and Manilatown, *Chan Is Missing* follows the search conducted by Jo and Steve (Marc Hayashi), two Chinese-American cab drivers, for their missing business partner, Chan Hung, a middle-aged Taiwan immigrant who has disappeared with \$2000 of their money. As Jo and Steve question Hung's family, friends and acquaintances as to his whereabouts, they encounter a diverse cross-section of Asian-Americans in and around Chinatown. This search for Hung is the visible plot and serves as a vehicle by which Jo and Steve and the audience are confronted with and explore the identity of Asian Americans and their role in the American system.

As Jo and Steve search for their friend Chan, they find that though they are collecting more

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Jo (Wood Moy), left, and Steve (Marc Hayashi)

and more information on their friend, he grows more elusive. Chan begins to assume multiple identities. He is none and yet all of the descriptions given. He is both "too Chinese," according to his estranged wife, and a computer whiz who likes Hi Ho cookies and the tango. As Amy, Steve's sister, says, "Being Chinese American is neuter." Neither here nor there. Throughout the film Chinese Americans layer a number of roles, such as being gay and living in Castro, being a jive-talking Richard Pryor, or reading *GQ* and out with your "lo fan" girlfriend. As Steve says, "It's playing the game"; this is an experience, certainly, which lesbians and gay men can also understand. To survive one must melt in, fit into the surroundings, no matter how disjointed.

Wang captures the texture and essence of the Asian American experience — the confusion, the displacement, the elusiveness and creativity in forming an identity.

The Asian American world is a confusing collage of Eastern and Western culture, of Buddhas festooned with Christmas tinsel, of pagodas in relief to the Trans-American "Pyramid," of Cantonese peppered with American slang. Wang cleverly draws an analogy for Asian Americanism in one of my favorite scenes where an Asian American social worker compares Asian Americanism to an American apple pie which still tastes Chinese because it's baked with Chinese techniques.

Being Chinese American, I found it reconfirming and refreshing to see an all Asian American cast and crew. We rarely see ourselves portrayed nonstereotypically in the media. Wang's *Chan Is Missing* is the first feature length film to be produced by an entirely Asian American cast and crew. If you leave the film confused and disoriented, *good*. Wayne Wang has done his job well in conveying what it is to be Asian American.

## Lola

continued from page 10

look as startling as possible. The opening credits appear in shocking greens, blues and magentas and the motifs appear throughout the film reaching a climax when during a serious discussion in a parked car Lola is bathed in a pinkish-purple light while Von Bohm (sitting right next to her) is drenched in an electric blue. It's unclear exactly what this all means, but it is certainly high theatrics. And while precise meaning is perhaps negligible, the use of the neon type lighting suggests the negative influence of pop America upon German culture. Fassbinder used the same neon effects in the bar scenes in *Maria Braun* and even earlier in *Jailbait* (1972). They add a certain air of decadence and imply some political basis to a general cultural criticism, but in the end they are not enough to sustain an almost two-hour film.

It is interesting that Ripplöh should mention all of the films that contain women's names (*Veronica Voss* will open the New York Film Festival September 24th) because part of the problem is that Fassbinder has fallen into using women as symbols — Maria was the post-war German economy, Lili was the romantic artist caught between opposing political forces, and now Lola is the German people selling out for rotten capitalism. The idealization of women (as either persons or types) has always been a part of a gay male sensibility: sometimes it works and sometimes it doesn't, depending upon the subject, the artist, and the work in question. I

think that Fassbinder had latched onto this notion and was using it without thinking each case through. It does work in *Lili Marleen* and *Maria Braun* because he managed to create living, interesting characters. Lola never transcends her status as symbol and the audience remains relatively unaffected. There are times in the film when Barbara Sukowa looks out of control, floundering about looking for the right tone or idea to latch onto. It appears that both she and the director were never quite sure who Lola — the person, not the symbol — really was.

It is curious that *Lola* has received a majority of rave reviews. Critics who were lukewarm to *In A Year of Thirteen Moons* or even *Lili Marleen* — both arguably better, more complete, complex films — have gone wild over *Lola*. It's true that it's

more accessible than some of his other films — like many other "high tone" Hollywood films, it has a single point that it hammers home again and again — but it is also less interesting and ultimately less involving.

Over the years we have come to be shocked, jolted by Fassbinder's films — *The Bitter Tears of Petra Von Kant*, *Chinese Roulette*, and even *Effi Briest* pushed us to watch and feel more closely than other films usually do. *Lola* is by no means a bad film, it just feels too easy, not so much half done as just not trying very hard. Though beautifully made, it doesn't put out a whole lot to respond to: decoration without any real center. With forty-one films in sixteen years you can't expect every one to be a masterpiece. We can see *Lola* now and wait for *Veronica Voss*.

## ERRATA

# Not A Love Story

Last issue, in our rush to leave for our much-needed vacation we really slipped up, leaving out an important portion of Lisa Orlando's interview with Linda Lee Tracey (from the centerspread, "Not A Love Story, Not a Documentary"). The missing portion is reprinted below, along with the segment which immediately preceded it. GCN apologizes for the error (now that we're rested it won't happen again!).

LO: Many gay men feel that

their porn isn't exploitative — that it's playful. And that a lot of what many feminists feel is objectification and violence — S/M, "public" sex — is not something that gay men feel is necessarily negative, but is just an alternative way of expressing sexuality.

LLT: I think that kind of attitude might be a possibility for me as a woman, let's say a hundred years from now when I have found my place in the world and

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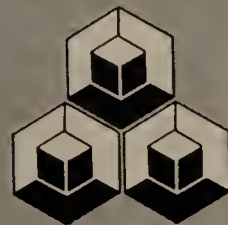
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# N.E. Women's Music



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Over two thousand five hundred women came from all over the country for the "New England Women's Musical Retreat" over Labor Day weekend, September 3-6. Camping in the woods near North Stonington, Connecticut, women heard three days and three nights of music, participated in workshops on a variety of subjects, and saw the wares of artisans and craftswomen. Local performers were featured on the day stage and nationally prominent musicians were featured at night.

Above: Top Left to Right: Women move with the music; A capella oldies from The Bachelorettes; Center: Eyes reflect on the concert and the photographer, Susan Fleischmann; campsites.

GCN had intended to publish photographs of the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival as well. Unfortunately, our photographer (and Promotions Manager) Maxine Feldman had her camera stolen at that event.

## Now or Ever Been . . . ?

continued from page 7

necessary for a rational judgment about one's susceptibility to coercion. This can and does (see question list) include questions about the nature and circumstances of one's sexual activity.

The number of people affected by security clearance programs are great. Changes adopted in July in Department of Energy (DOE) security regulations affect 13,000 federal employees and 240,000 in private companies. In what appears to be a progressive move, DOE eliminated the security risk category of "homosexual or sexual pervers". It replaced it with a category of conduct or circumstances which "furnishes reason to believe the individual may be subject to coercion, influence or pressure which may cause the individual to act contrary to the best interests of the national security." This broadens the category substantially and obviously allows for even more arbitrary decisions by security officials. Now it seems that security officials are relying heavily on psychiatric evaluations as a means to harass gay people. DOE has even included in its new regulations a catch-22 clause allowing it to refuse a clearance to anyone refusing a psychiatric interview.

Leading the fight against gay discrimination in the security clearance program is Dr. Franklin E. Kamney, an astronomer who was himself the victim of anti-gay security clearance policies. He has since become an authority on the clearance issue and has championed hundreds of cases of gay people discharged from the military or refused clearances. He has worked on this issue for some fifteen to twenty years and has met with fair success. His fundamental advice to anyone threatened with a security investigation is: "SAY NOTHING, SIGN NOTHING, GET COUNSEL, FIGHT BACK!"

Although progress has been relatively good in the security clearance area, it has come only because of individuals' willingness

to confront the discrimination head on in spite of any intimidation. Until lesbians and gay men

receive protection as a group, each battle will continue to be fought on a case-by-case basis.

## Security Clearance Pointers

1. In any encounter with security officials, always be accompanied by counsel. Say nothing, sign nothing without the advice of counsel!

2. Always request specific reasons in writing for each and every request of security officials. Always raise the question of the relevance of any requested information to the safeguarding of national security.

3. There should be no psychiatric evaluations or examinations unless all clearance applicants are subjected to such exami-

nations or unless there are very special circumstances in an individual case. If evaluations do occur, the employee should be accompanied by legal counsel who should actively participate in the process regardless of the strident protests of the psychiatrist.

4. All hearings should be public and widely publicized as possible. Obviously no clearance applicant or holder who requests an open hearing can be subject to blackmail through fear of revelation of his/her homosexuality.

— Based on information provided by Dr. Franklin Kamney

## Sampler

continued from page 7

Any special bar?

12. Have you had a continuing homosexual relationship with any partner?

13. Would you be willing to reveal the names of your homosexual partners? What are their names?

14. If not, would you tell me why you would not be willing to name them?

15. Have you engaged in homosexual acts in other states beside the state of Washington? Outside of the United States?

16. Do your parents know of your homosexuality?

17. Does your supervisor at work know of your homosexuality?

18. Do any of your co-workers know that you are homosexual?

19. If you were directly confronted by a coworker or a supervisor regarding your homosexuality would you admit it?

20. When did you actually decide

that you were a homosexual?

21. Have you ever been hospitalized, treated or counseled for any emotional or mental problem?

22. Have you ever been prescribed medication for these problems?

23. Were you seeing this doctor to treat your homosexuality?

24. Would you be willing to consent to a Department of Energy-sponsored psychiatric Evaluation?

25. Do you feel there is any way you could be pressured to reveal classified or sensitive information to unauthorized persons?

26. If someone were to attempt to extract information from you by threatening to disclose something about your background, what would be your response to it?

27. Has there ever been any attempt to pressure you or blackmail you with regard to your homosexual activities?

28. Have you been treated fairly during this interview?



# Festival



Bottom: "Freedom Time," Linda Tillery; Kay Gardner's flowing flute.

West Coast women will want to know about the upcoming Third Annual West Coast Women's Music Festival to be held near Willits, California (2½ hours north of San Francisco), September 23-26. Call 415-641-4892.

## ERRATA

continued from page 11

ford to take those risks, and I can afford to explore those areas. Right now, as a woman who's still looked at as an interruption when I walk into a room where men are talking, I can't afford to get turned on by something that objectifies me and keeps me chained to a stereotypical image that is false, that's been perpetrated against my gender for the last 3,000 years. I can understand that it's not the same thing for gay men, because their gender — it doesn't matter what their sexual preference is — guarantees them a right that I still don't have in 1982.

**LO:** There's a scene in the film which shows studded leather cuffs being made. Why does the film portray sex toys as equivalent to porn?

**LLT:** Because a lot of people are needing accoutrements right now. We're becoming more and more desensitized. I mean, I know in my own life men who have suggested these things, calling it play, when it's not, [and] retreating into simple minded fantasies. Like the place that we visited in New York was selling a lot of that stuff to people who wanted to try it out, and who were living in a fantasy that was pretty fucking dangerous. It was that whole male dominance trip that they were getting into, bringing it home to their wives and saying, "Listen, honey, this is what real women do." Why's there so much of a dependence on accoutrements, more than ever before? . . .

In my own life I had to wean myself of masochistic masturbatory fantasies. And I recognized them now as something that was habitual and made me retreat from my responsibility to myself. When you're out there all the time fighting your goddamn battle to be equal, sometimes you just get sick and tired of it, and you need to retreat into a place where you don't have to be responsible for anything. And somebody in your

fantasy is taking care of you. The more he debases you the freer you are somehow. But I've found that it's dangerous for me, because in the back of my mind it's something I'm looking for in my real world. Not only was it a wonderful retreat from being responsible for myself; there is also something I learned as a little girl — that if I was passive I would get rewarded. And I purged myself of that. I had very consciously gone from fantasies where I was being dominated to fantasies where I would dominate. Now I'm just getting to the point where I can have fantasies of mutuality, and it's starting to come out in my everyday life, as well as with my lovers. I don't want to go back because it was hard to get here. I think that when my place in the world is guaranteed and when I'm looked at seriously and lovingly as just another human being, then I might be able to experiment again with those kinds of play. Some of that stuff *can* be play. But I can't right now, because I'm too busy just fighting to be taken seriously.

**LO:** What about lesbians who chose, rather than to purge themselves of these fantasies, to allow themselves to play with them?

**LLT:** I think . . . (sigh) . . . that's fine, but the only problem is, that as a heterosexual, I suffer for that somewhere along the way. Maybe by me not wanting pornography, they suffer as well, but my priorities are me right now. However, what people do in their own bedrooms is their own business. As long as it doesn't have to be out there where men are eating it up and saying, "See, I told you so. Even other women believe it. You're only here to be beaten." I can't live with that anymore. What are the demands of these women? Do they want it to be available everywhere? Do I have to see it? Do my lovers have to see it, so that they come to me with those expectations? . . . That hurts too much to say "yes" to.

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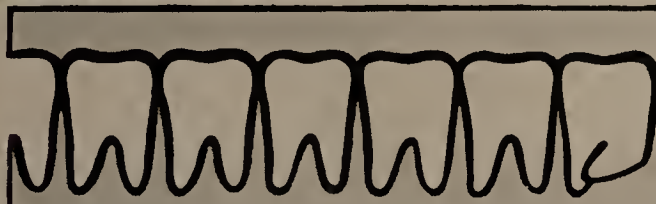
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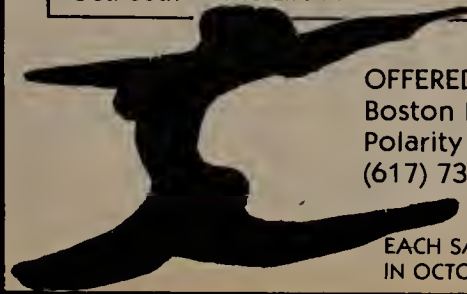
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psychologist. 739-6381. (12)

**GAY MALE THERAPIST**  
Individual and Couples Counseling  
Socialization Skills  
Insurance Accepted Silding Fee  
Charles Hannagan, MA 262-4194 (9)

**BELLVILLE ASSOCIATES**  
COPLEY SQUARE  
Individual, Group and  
Couples Counseling  
Career Assessment  
Assertiveness Training  
Call (617) 739-7803  
For initial Appt.

## GCN SPECIALS

### WE'RE AT IT AGAIN!

Yes, we're asking you for still more help. This time it's to help us move into our new, *permanent* office. It's really a great location, but we have to fix it up and make it look more like home. We need paint, brushes, etc and/or the ability to use them plus carpentry and so forth during the last two weeks in Sept and possibly all of Oct (it depends on how fast we get things done). Also we need strong backs and healthy vehicles to do the actual moving. As usual, Mike Riegle is coordinating this massive effort, and he would like anyone wishing to get involved in the undertaking to give him a call at 426-4469. We all thank you very much.

### FOLDING TABLES NEEDED

For the Friday night folding and stuffing crew (sounds good, doesn't it????) and various assorted other entitles, we could use large folding tables. Anyone wishing to give us such items, please call Mike at 426-4469. We love you.

### EX-GAYS

& former lesbians wanted: people who have changed (or who have tried to change) their orientation from homo- to heterosexuality. Your experiences are needed for a GCN article on the subject. Please send first name and way to contact to GCN Box 655. All replies will be held in strictest confidence.

### DEAR KIND READERS

We still need a paper cutter, tape dispensers, 4-drawer file cabinets (used, of course, we ain't fussy), file boxes (12"x12"x5"), and staplers. Please call Mike or Cindy at 426-4469 before you bring or send anything. Thank You very much.

### ORGANIZE US!

Losing our old office unsettled a lot of us, and now we suddenly understand the value of things like desk organizers (those darling little things that keep your pens, pencils, paper clips, etc from going astray) and stacking trays for letters (fan mail, hate mail, outgoing male, in-coming male, oops, well, excuse me ...) If anybody wants to bestow such gifts upon us, please call Michael at 426-4469 and he'll tell you how ... Thanks.

If you have been thinking of throwing out your back issues — PLEASE DON'T. We will be assembling at least a few complete sets of volumes 1-9. If you wish to give us some of your papers, please contact Archive Committee, GCN, PO Box 971, Boston, MA 02103. Let us know what volume and issues you have and give us your address and phone number so we can get back in touch with you about what we need. We'll be starting to collect the papers in October after we are in a permanent office. Thank you very much.

69 cents can buy a lot of information and enjoyment. That's what it costs to send 1 lb. of bks to a lesbian or gay friend in prison. Lots of people have given us bks, now we need some money for postage. Think about it, you spend as much to buy a cup of coffee. Lesbian & Gay Prisoners Project, c/o GCN, 22 Bromfield St., Boston 02108 or 426-4469.

## ORGANIZATIONS

Gay Christian Scientists/Boston. Sun Sept 19, 7:00, 26 Wellington St, Apt 4. 266-0388. GCN Box 255.

Men Who Care—For Each Other  
Write for Free Brochure  
The Loving Brotherhood  
Box 556B, Sussex, NJ 07461. (11)

### GAY/LESBIAN AND JEWISH?

Am Tikvah welcomes you. Activities include religious observances, discussions, potluck dinners, folk dancing, etc. For events, check GCN Calendar, call (617) 782-8894 or write PO Box 11, Camb, MA 02238.

### NH LAMBDA

A LESBIAN Organization. Box 1043, Concord, NH 03301. Concord: 224-3875, 746-3339; Dover/Portsmouth: 431-1541. CRISIS LINE: 483-2592, Sun, Mon, Wed 6-9 pm. A statewide organization meeting the third Saturday of every month. Support, education and political action, since 1976. (45)

### WOMEN PRINTERS

Typesetters, press operators, strippers, bindery-workers, are invited to join us in regular pot-luck meetings. Compare notes about your job — hear informal talks on occupational safety, union organizing, etc. — help work on a newsletter and other projects. For meeting times and locations call 266-6644.

Socialist-Feminist Discussion Bulletin; articles on: Trends in the women's mvt, reproductive rights, lesbian/gay liberation, community org, wking women, soc-fem theory. Available from: Solidarity, a Socialist Feminist Network, 4360 23rd St, SF, CA 94114. \$3.95 (inc. postage). (c)

### D.O.B.

Suppt orgnzn for lesbians, 1151 Mass Av, Camb, Old Bap. Raps evry Tues, Thurs 8 pm; 35 pls rap 2nd Wed, last Fri. 8 pm & 3rd Sat. 7 pm; Parents & Co-parents rap 1st & 3rd Mons, 8 pm. Softball evry Sun 3 pm Apr-Sept, weathr permtng. Magazine Fld. Bimonthly mag FOCUS \$8. Mnthly social & fundraising event. Info & office hrs 661-3633. All women invited to participate.

Are you interested in forming a gay Communal Retirement Center? Join others in the Ganymede Society who are forming now. Write: Ganymede Society, c/o Karl Volk, 43 Whittier Blvd, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603.

### IDENTITY HOUSE

Lesbian, gay, bi, peer counseling and groups. Rap groups: 2:30-5 pm Sat. for women, and Sun. for men. Free walk-in counseling. Sun.-Tues. 6-10pm. Donations accepted. 544 Ave. of Americas, NYC. (212) 243-8181.

### DO YOU SECRETLY LUST

After wimmin in black habits? Do you picture your soul liberally sprinkled with black specks reminding you of your venial sins? Do you feel guilty whenever you're enjoying yrsf? Confess! Join ex-Catholic dykes group. Call Jill 426-4469.

### GAY SWITCHBOARD OF NYC

When you're in New York, give us a call for the latest information in gay and lesbian events, which bars to go to, where to stay, what group to contact, and which businesses to patronize. Call us to rap or just to say hello. (212) 777-1800 from noon till midnight.

### NGTF NEEDS YOU

Join with the largest, fastest growing gay civil rights group in the country! The National Gay Task Force works with a professional staff on media representation, national legislation, information clearinghouse, religious reforms, corporate non-discrimination work — join now. \$20 membership (\$5 limited income) includes Newsletter. NGTF, 80 Fifth Ave. Rm. 1601, New York, NY 10011.

New women's media gp committed to lesb. education outreach thru media sks mems. Need assistance w/marketing, graphic design, fundraising, media work. Letter of interest &/or resume to Women's Educational Media, Inc., 36 Colwell Ave., Brighton, MA 02135. 367-2086. (8)

**BOSTON LESBIAN/GAY CATHOLICS**  
Dignity/Boston sponsors a liturgy for Lesbian/Gay and concerned Catholics every Sunday at Arlington Street Church (Boston), right side entrance on Arlington St., at 5:30 pm. For info call Dignity/Boston MF 7-10 pm, Sun 2-5 pm, 536-6518. DIGNITY/BOSTON, 355 Boylston St., Boston, MA 02114 (c)

## PUBLICATIONS

### BOOKS BY MAIL

48-page catalogue of 2500 gay & lesbian books, magazines, etc. \$2 refundable from ADL 4014 Santa Monica Blvd. LA, CA 90029. (6,9)

### TV-TS TAPESTRY

Tasteful informative mag for people interested in x-dressing & gender expression. Pers ltngs. Summer issue now avail. Send \$6 to: Tiffany Club Box 19 Wayland, MA 01778. (9)

Free lesbian catalogue of books, send two 15¢ stamps. Womankind Books, Dept GCN, 1899 New York Ave., Huntington Station, NY 11746 (516) 427-1289. (12)

Subscribe to BIG MAMA RAG, a monthly feminist newjournal. \$6 per year, \$10 outside the U.S. FREE to prisoners. Contact BMR, 1724 Gaylord, Denver, CO 80206.

### THE BOSTON GAY REVIEW

A quarterly of criticism devoted to the Arts and our developing lesbian and gay male lifestyles in general, with a particular interest in small press publication, welcomes review copies, authors' queries, and subscriptions: \$5.00 for 6 issues, Box 277, Astor Station, Boston, MA 02123. (c)

### GRAB ITT

Read in *These Times*, the independent national socialist newspaper. Each week brings fresh and responsible socialist analyses of critical issues & unique features. Congressperson John Conyers says we're "invaluable." SF Supervisor Harry Britt supports us. Why don't you read us? 6 mo sub/10.95. In *These Times*, 1509 N. Milwaukee, Dept A, Chicago, IL 60622. (29) (30x)

### FOCUS

A Journal for Lesbians. America's oldest literary mag for lesbians. 11 yrs continuous publication. Fiction, poetry, reviews, essays, graphics. Quality our only criterion. Submissions as well as subscriptions always welcome. Or come see us, first Weds of the month. 7pm at OCBC, 1151 Mass Av, Camb, MA 02138, or DOB office. \$8/yr for 6 issues. \$1.35 + 40¢ postage for sample copy. \$10/yr for libraries. Plain envelope. For further info (617) 259-0063.

### HOW GAY IS YOUR LIBRARY?

Pamphlet of tips for non-librarians on how to get gay materials into libraries, available from the Gay Task Force of the American Library Association. "Censored, Ignored, Overlooked, Too Expensive? How to Get Gay Materials into Libraries" explains library selection policies in a general way, and tells how you can get a library to buy more gay books & periodicals. Also tells what to do if library refuses your request; why gay bks are sometimes kept where you have to ask for them; & how to donate materials to the library. \$1 to Barbara Gittings — GTF, P.O. Box 2383, Phila., PA 19103. Bkstore & bulk order discount available. More info: Barbara Gittings (215) 382-3222. (c)

**GUARDIAN:** Independent radical news-weekly. Covers Gay, women and minority struggles, and international progressive movements. Special offer 4 issues FREE. Write Guardian Dept. GCN, 33 W 17th St., NY NY 10011. (ex)

Monthly calendar of women's events in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont, \$1 for sample issue, \$7.50 per year. Write: Full Circle, P.O. Box 235, Contoocook, NH 03229. (15)

### PLEXUS

San Francisco Bay Area Women's Newspaper since 1974 brings you monthly feminist news, reviews, features, community forum, calendar & more. Subs are just \$8/yr; sample copy \$1. 545 Athol Ave., Oakland, CA 94606. (1/mo)

New Spring lesbian/feminist annotated booklist for \$1.00. Womansplace Bookstore, (GCN) 2401 N. 32nd St., Phoenix, AZ 85008. (41-10x)



TO ALL THOSE WHO IN AND OUT OF PRISON FIGHT AGAINST THEIR BONDAGE (Alexander Berkman, Prison Memoirs of an Anarchist).



I am a 21 year old libra lesbian, originally from New York, now a prisoner in Florida, and would love to correspond with another lesbian lady. I enjoy fishing, swimming, dancing and lots of other things. Age is irrelevant. Mature sincere women only. Patti LOMBARDO, 229691, Box 147, Lowell FL 32663.

From now until the end of time, The need for a woman is a puzzlin' rhyme. And though she's really not to blame, the need for a woman is a burning flame. If you're feeling the same write Deborah SUTLIFF, 150452, FCI 346, Box 147, Lowell FL 32663.

I'm a gay woman, and I'm in prison and I thought I would ask if you knew someone with whom I could share some ideas and thoughts. I don't have very much education but I guess I like to talk. OK that's all I have to ask you. Bye! Lorry DIAMOND, Box 97, McAlester, OK 74501.

I would really like to receive your publication and to correspond with other gay womyn as it is hard to keep track of the ever changing world when the one I am in stands still. Thanks for your time. Susan CUTLER, ACTC/PWD, 1723 N. 179th Ave., Buckeye AZ 85326.

**NOTE TO PEOPLE WHO WRITE PRISONERS:** If you get no response (rare) from writing one of the prisoners, it may be because he/she has been moved to another prison (and they don't usually forward mail). One of prisons' main ways to destroy attempts by prisoners to defend themselves with lawsuits and to form "unions" and social support networks generally is to keep moving the "troublemakers" (the type that read GCN, for example) from one prison to another. It is also a form of punishment for activism to move them away from where their families and friends live.

I'm a college grad from U. So. Cal. with a strong background in prelaw, but there's no law library where I'm housed and I need help from a lawyer in filing my suits. I know the basics, but case law and proper form are hard to obtain here. I hope you can help me. Thanks. David R. WHITE, 2800 Gravier St., New Orleans LA 70119.

One of the loneliest moments in a prisoner's life is when he walks from mail call empty-handed. If there are some open-minded guys out there who want to bring a little sunlight to my darkened cell, please write. I'm not really a bad person, just lonely. David WARREN, 118720, Box 500, Boynton VA 23917.

I would truly enjoy the pleasure of writing someone in the free world. At least one letter now and then would be a great satisfaction. I like all kinds of novels, and boxing and skating. Felix ZAMOT, Box 747, Starke FL 32091.

Prisoner desires correspondence with open-minded people. My interests are reading, sports, astrology and affairs related to life in general. William CARTER, 137-961, Box 57, Marion OH 43302.

I'm from Ohio and as young as I feel and a very caring individual and would love to communicate with anyone who might care to write a few lines every so often. Thanks! Melvin JONES, EF-129-314, Box 194-GII, Alto GA 30596.



I'd appreciate it if you could send me a copy of your paper and if it is returned to your office please inform me of this so I can take it to the ACLU as a violation of my rights. I am gay and I'd like to read and write to other gays. Scott BOLOMEY, 00589-017, 902 Renfro Rd., Talladega AL 35160.

Thank you for your free subscription. I'd like to write to some people. I enjoy getting mail and answering. Prison life can be very lonely. Thanks again! Raymond Larry MERNEIGH, EF-514332, K.B. 7175 Manor Rd., Columbus GA 31907.

This place is so full of rednecks and straights and cowboys that it makes me sick. Maybe I could find someone to write to out there. I could send a photo, as soon as the prison takes pictures again. As for me, I am AC or DC, I can resist or enjoy, what ever the mood. Larry B. NEUMAN, Box 7-A017161, Deer Lodge MT 59722.

This prison administration has no understanding or feelings for gay people. They have separated me from my lover and friends and made me live in a locked down unit (no recreation or library etc.). Would appreciate being able to hear now and then from someone out there. Richard LEVINE, 16324, Box 607, Carson City NV 89701.

In prison for stealing a coin collection (non-violent), my hobbies are my post card collection, reading/writing, meditation, boxing and 3 forms of karate and I have been trained as a baker, roofer and emergency clinic technician. Please place my name on your penpal list. I will send you a copy of our prison paper called "What's Up." Thanks. Tony Workmann, Box 1100, D-002975, Box 662, Avon Park FL 33825.

Would like to hear from gay men and women who I can relate to and laugh with and enjoy some objective friendship. It's really very lonely and depressing in here. Please write. David DE BERNARDIS, 058926, Box 1100-220, Avon Park FL 33825.

I need someone to write to. Please write. Robert WOODS, Box B44241, Florence AZ 85232.

I need other gay people to correspond with me. My name and address are: William C. BARNHILL, 325-460, Box 158, A-5T, Lowell FL 32663.

To anyone who loves reading poems and the Bible and who is gay, I'm very lonesome and would like the chance to write someone. Farrell JONES, 33554, Box 900, Jefferson City MO 65102.

## Prisoners Seeking Friends

Just for our info here at the Prisoner Project, people inside or out, who feel they've been treated badly should send their lamentations, complaints and other stories to GCN Prisoner Project, 167 Tremont St., Boston MA 02111. Don't expect replies or solutions. We're just looking for patterns that will help keep the penpal space active and a good place to meet some amazing people (people with convictions!!). Thanks.

**NOTE TO PRISONERS:** If someone on the outside doesn't write you again after seeming to become your penpal, it may not be because they're thoughtless or rude. They may have fallen in love (temporary insanity) or lost your address (give them one more chance, if you've got the spare postage ...). Patience (with these people on the outside who often think the only kind of "rlpoffs" involve money, who never see their stopping writing as a sort of rlpoff).

**MORE ATTENTION, PRISONERS (AND THEIR PENPALS) I "COMING OUT" IS THE NAME OF A NEW ORGANIZATION TO HELP PRISONERS MAKE THE CHANGE FROM BEING IN PRISON TO BEING OUT. THEY HAVE A JOB COUNSELING SERVICE. A PENPAL SECTION AND A LOT OF OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION INSPIRATION. WRITE THEM (OR TELL YOUR PENPAL TO WRITE THEM) AT: COMING OUT, 1712 OCEAN AVE. SUITE 7L. SAN FRANCISCO CA 94112.**

I was told that gay prisoners could get free sample copies of GCN and Fag Rag. Is that true? If so, I'm gay and in prison and would love to get some decent reading material. Also do you know of anyone who would like to write to a lonely gay prisoner? Thanks Joseph SIMS, A-96048, Box 711, Menard IL 62259.

Please, I am proud and need to have some support from some gay men outside of this "heterosexual hell hole"! A good relationship would sure help tide me over this mess. Help! Dennis Craig ALBERT, 202891, Box 316, Ft. Madison IA 52627.

It is difficult and dangerous here for many, many reasons. I am therefore desperately requesting, if it is at all possible, if some people from near Dedham (MA) might come and visit me or send me some reading material. I would be deeply indebted to you. Bernard CHAMPY, Box 149, Dedham MA 02026.

Intelligent, open-minded, sensual prisoner seeks correspondence with a transsexual or bi-female, any nationality! I need love and help from good people. William SARMENTO, 80C-617, Box 149, Attica NY 14011.

Ex-truck driver and heavy equipment operator inside for petty theft and trying to escape would like to get acquainted with some people on the outside. Thank you from a friend. Charles KAUNBERES, 074456, Box 1500, Cross City FL 32628.

I'm gentle in nature, very passionate and friendly. Love travel and sports. I would dearly like to write to someone of my own persuasion. It would be such a relief from this place. Thanks a lot! Gary GARZEE, Box 14, 7-17881, Boise ID 83707.

I am very much in need of a penpal or rather should I just say I'm in deep need of gaining trust in someone to whom I can express my honest thoughts. Your help in this will be deeply appreciated. Jerry BROWN, 165-651, Box 45699, Lucasville, OH 45699.

I'm very lonely and would appreciate receiving letters from other gay men. I'm very honest and sincere and will answer all letters sent to me. John MIXON, 93895, Camp D Eagle 2, Angola LA 70712.

I'd be delighted to correspond with anyone, especially someone humorous. I love company of all kinds, enjoy the outdoors and like to believe I'm cute. Wayne STEVENS, Box 14, Boise ID 83707





# Calendar

## weekly events

### sunday

**Boston, MA** — Boston Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth (BAGLY) drop-in center for youth 22 and under from 3:30-5pm at Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St (Beacon Hill). Info: 497-8282. Please send all BAGLY mail to: GCN, Box 10GY.

**Boston, MA** — Black and White Men Together of Boston meets at 2pm the second Sunday of the month at 57 E. Springfield St. (So. End). Info: Richard 247-3043 or Tom 536-3392.

**Cambridge, MA** — Overeaters Anonymous, lesbian meeting. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass Ave. Sun eves 7:30 pm, DOB office.

**Framingham, MA** — Tricounty Assoc. (Framingham, Milford, Franklin area). Social and support group for gay and lesbian community. Meets Suns. Info: (617) 376-4323.

**Boston, MA** — Musically Speaking. Women's programming music, ideas and announcements. Call Melanie at 494-8810 with events and comments. (WMBR, 88.1FM) 1-4pm.

**Boston, MA** — Gay and Lesbian Physicians of New England. Second Sundays. 2pm. Info: (617) 482-6874 or 247-5485.

**Keene, NH** — Potlucks and other fun get-togethers for lesbians. First Suns. (2pm) and third Tues or Wed (6pm). Info: Keene Kiondykes. Box 261. Gilsum NH 03448

**Concord, NH** — Concord Area gay Youth. support group for youth 16-22. rap session and social time. Carpools & counseling available. Info: Scott or Joe 224-6931.

**Acton, MA** — Central Middlesex Social Club meets at 7:30pm. Info: Carlton 486-8177. All are invited.

**Orono, ME** — Wilde-Stein Club. Social/support group for lesbians and gay men. Informal, friendly and open meetings. Peabody Lounge, 3rd fl, Memorial Union, UMO. 7pm.

**Orleans, MA** — Shoreline, a social group alternative to the bars on Cape Cod, meets second Sundays. Info: Box 1614. Orleans, MA 02653.

**Northern VUNH League of Gays (LOGS) meets third Sun. Info: (802) 626-3618 or write: Box 703, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819**

**Central VT** — Central Vermont Gay Men (CVGM) meets first Sun. of the month for socializing, business and a meal. Info: Box 42, Barre, 05641.

**Boston, MA** — Boston's Other Voice (WROR, FM 98.5) Lesbian and Gay news and features. 11:30pm.

### monday

**Portsmouth, NH** — Seacoast Gay Men. 7pm. Info: P.O.Box 1394, Portsmouth 03801.

**Nashua, NH** — Nashua Area Gays meet 8pm. Info: Tony 888-7933, or write, Nashua Area Gays. Box 3472. Nashua 03061.

### tuesday

**Battleboro, VT** — Southern Vermont Lesbian and Gay Men's Coalition meets on the second Tuesday of the month at the Common Ground Restaurant. 25 Elliot St. 7:30pm.

**Cambridge, MA** — Daughters of Bilitis. Discussion and social group. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. (Harv. Sq.) 8pm. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Info: 661-3633.

**Pittsfield, MA** — Berkshire County Gay Coalition meets 2nd and 4th Tues. Info: (413) 442-7772.

**Hartford, CT** — Greater Hartford Lesbian and Gay Task Force meets at Hill Ctr., 350 Farmington Ave. 7pm (first Tues.) Info: 249-7691.

**Manchester, NH** — Manchester Men's Group, weekly support group for gay and bisexual men, meets Tuesdays at 7:30pm for coffee and discussion. Info: Joe (603) 224-6931.

**New London, CT** — New London Gay Men's Forum, support group for gay and bisexual men. Info: 447-0155 (Noon to 7pm).

### wednesday

**Boston, MA** — Fathers in Transition, a group of gay/bi fathers meets Weds. for friendship and support. Info: Gay Fathers, c/o GCN Box 6, 22 Bromfield St., Boston 02108, or call Exodus Ctr 266-0612.

**Boston, MA** — Boston Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth (BAGLY). New persons meeting 6-7pm; general meeting and group discussion 7-9pm. For youth 22 and under. Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St. (Beacon Hill) Info: 497-8282.

**Boston, MA** — Walk-in VD screening and treatment for and by gay men. 6:30-8pm. Fenway Community Health Center, 16 Haviland St. (near Auditorium stop). 267-7573.

**Boston, MA** — Boston Gay Men's Chorus meets every Wed. 6:45-9pm. Community Music Center, 48 Warren Ave. (So. End). Info: 625-3247.

**Nashua, NH** — Greater Nashua Area of NH Lambda sponsors speakers and/or raps on the second Wed. and 4th Thurs. of each month. 7pm. Business meetings on first Sats. 5pm. Info: (603) 889-1416.

**Bridgewater, MA** — South Shore Gay and Lesbian Alliance meets Weds. Info: 586-1503.

**Hartford, CT** — Lesbian AA meeting. Hill Ctr., 350 Farmington Ave. 8pm. Info: (203) 232-9737 or 742-8203.

**Cambridge, MA** — Lesbian "coming out" group, new weekly open rap group, is now meeting at Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. (Central Sq.) 8-10pm. Info: 354-8807.

**Cambridge, MA** — Daughters of Bilitis. 35+ women's discussion and social group. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. 8pm. Second Wed. and last Fri. of each month.

**Hyannis, MA** — Lesbian Support Group meets first Wed. of every month. 7:30pm. New members welcome. Orientation, social meetings. Warren Women's Center, 298 Main St. Info: 771-6739.

**Boston, MA** — Lesbian and Gay Media Advocates (LAGMA) meeting. 7:30-9:30pm. New members welcome. Help make the media more responsive to our needs. Info: 542-5679.

**Augusta, ME** — Gay/Lesbian AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) meeting. All Souls Unitarian Church, 11 King St. 8 pm. Open to all.

**Providence, RI** — Transvestite/transsexual meetings. 8pm. Info: 272-9247.

**Hampden County, MA** — Social/Support Group for Lesbians. 8pm. Info: Debbie 532-5878 or Julie 532-4959.

### thursday

**Boston, MA** — Boston Area Lesbian and Gay History Project. 7:30pm. Info: 424-1993.

**Somerville, MA** — TV/TS Peer Support Group. Gender Clinic. Info: Martha 666-8280.

**Northampton, MA** — Pioneer Valley Gay People's Alliance now forming. First and Third Thursdays. Info: (413) 586-5979.

**Boston, MA** — The Mass. Gay Political Caucus meets on the first and third Thursdays at 7:30pm. 755 Boylston St. Rm. 215. New members welcome. Info: 471-8404.

**New London, CT** — Lesbian and Gay community at Connecticut College weekly meeting. Discussion, planning and outreach 9pm. Fanning Hall Rm 412. Info: 442-7458.

**Worcester, MA** — "Straight Talk About Gays," a free form radio show with news, announcements, music, poetry, in-depth interviews and raps. 8:15pm. WCUW. 91.3FM.

**Cambridge, MA** — Lesbians with children. Support group. 8-10pm. Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. 354-8807.

**Cambridge, MA** — Lesbian Liberation, an open discussion group. 8-10pm. Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Info: 354-8807.

**Nashua, NH** — Greater Nashua Area Chapter of New Hampshire Lambda sponsors speaker &/or raps on the 2nd Wed. and the 4th Thurs. at 7pm. Business meetings on the 1st Sat. at 5pm. Info: (603) 883-9228.

### friday

**BOSTON, MA** — GAY COMMUNITY NEWS ALWAYS NEEDS HELP SENDING OUT THE PAPER ON FRIDAY EVES. COME BY FOR A FEW HOURS TO OUR NEW (TEMPORARY) SPACE AT 140 Boylston St. (ON THE COMMON) 7TH FLOOR. COME BY FOR A FEW HOURS ANYTIME AFTER 6 AND LEND A HAND. REFRESHMENTS AND GOOD TIMES. EVERY BODY WELL COME! Info: 428-4469. Thanks!

**Hartford, CT** — Your Turf, a weekly drop-in center for lesbian and gay teenagers. 7-9pm at the Hill Center, 350 Farmington Ave. (upstairs). Sponsored by the Coalition of Sexual Minorities.

**Pittsfield, MA** — Weekly meetings of Lesbians United. Info: Women's Services center, 499-2425.

**Concord, NH** — Concord's Men's Group meets Fridays at 7:30pm for coffee and discussion. 67 Thorndike St. Info: Joe 224-6931.

**Providence, RI** — Rhode Island Gay and Lesbian Youth meets every Sat. from 1:5pm for youth 14-21 years of age. Info: MCC 272-9247 or Gay Help Line 751-3322 (eves).

**Boston, MA** — Front Runners Boston, gay and lesbian running group. Info: 825-0181.

**Boston, MA** — Chiltern Mt. Club. Regularly scheduled sports events and general info #s for outdoors events general #s John 275-1336 and 864-0823. volleyball Dee 266-2147.

## coming events

**Boston, MA** — Boston's Gay and Lesbian Hotline is currently recruiting new volunteers for a 10-12 hr training session. Call Ken if you're interested in helping to expand the services of the Hotline. 542-5188 (between 9am and 5pm, Mon thru Fri).

**Jameice Plain, MA** — Elizabeth Stone House, a program for women in crisis, is looking for volunteers. Training and supervision provided. Info: 522-3417.

## sept 18 sat

**Cambridge, MA** — Am Tikva. Rosh Hoshana service at Kresge Aud. on Mass Ave. at MIT. 8pm. Info: 628-3986.

**Cambridge, MA** — Red Book Store will sponsor a day-long benefit for Gay Community News and Glad Day Books at their store at 136 River St. (Central Square).

**Cambridge, MA** — DOB rap group for women over 35. Sats at 7pm at Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass Ave. (Harvard Sq).

## 20 mon

**Boston, MA** — The GO Group, a gay social club, Strawberry Crepe Festival and Gay Lesbian and Gay History Slide Show. All you can eat. \$5. All are welcome. Hill House, 74 Joy St. (Beacon Hill) 8pm.

**Boston, MA** — Open meeting Boston Lesbian and Gay Political Alliance, UMass, Park Sq, Rm 222, 7:30. Info: 247-3910 (eves).

## 21 tues

**Boston, MA** — Self-defense Class for Gay Men. Taught by martial arts expert Pam Glaser. Eight week session, tonight is first class. Cost \$40. 46 Waltham St., Studio 207 (Dover T stop, Orange Line). 7:30-8:45pm. More Info: Jeremy 426-4469 days.

## 22 wed

**Cambridge, MA** — Cambridge Women's Center informal discussions at 8pm at the Center, 46 Pleasant St. (Central Sq) This week's topic: bisexuality.

## 23 thurs

**Boston, MA** — GCN proofreading. Call 426-4469 during the day to see when this week's exciting copy will be ready to proof. Be the first on your block!

**Boston, MA** — Chiltern Mountain Club. Special membership meeting. Info: Tom (617) 282-9348.

## 24 fri

**BOSTON, MA** — GCN VOLUNTEER NIGHT. COME! HELP SEND OUT THE PAPER. STILL AT TEMPORARY OFFICE, 140 Boylston St. (near Boylston T stop) Anytime after 8, for as long or as short as you like. Refreshments and fun! Everybody welcome.

**Boston, MA** — Poets Pat Kuras and John Wieners read at Glad Day Book Store, 43 Winter St. (Park St. T stop) at 8pm. Donation \$2.

**Cambridge, MA** — Children's Cooperative Day Care is having a benefit party from 7:30 to 11:30 at Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass Ave. (Harvard Sq) Performances by the children of the Coop, the New Women's Chorus and the Percussive Music Workshop. \$3.50 at the door. Info: 497-4332.

**Cambridge, MA** — Black Rose presents Karen Lindsey, feminist poet and activist, speaking on "Friends as Family." 8pm. MIT, 105 Mass Ave. Room 9-150. FREE! Info: 846-4053.

**Boston, MA** — The magic is back! "Spell #7" by Ntozake Shange is at the Caudron Experimental Theater, 22 Randolph St. (near Dover T stop, off Harrison) Sept 17 to Oct 9, Fri and Sat eves at 8 and Sun matinees at 3pm. All black cast in the hottest number to hit B'town yet. \$7 at the door. Info: 524-8575.

## 25 sat

**Boston, MA** — "The 7 Wonders of the Modern World," hot art at Gallery East thru Oct 18. Info: 338-9342 or 266-4405.

**Cambridge, MA** — Lesbian Awareness Day workshops and discussion. 10am-4pm. Phillips Brooks House, Harvard Yard. \$3 donation. Bring lunch. Info: Boston NOW 681-6015.

**Boston, MA** — Second Annual White Mountain Foliage Weekend with Chiltern Mountain Club. Info: (617) 828-8308; also, Stratton Mt. and Pond in Southern Vermont. Info: Don (413) 739-1248.

**Cambridge, MA** — "The Single Gay Experience" sponsored by the Exodus Center. Info: (617) 266-0612.

## 26 sun

**Boston, MA** — Rock Against Sexism is celebrating its first birthday with a FREE disc party at the 1270 Club, 1270 Boylston St. (near Fenway Park) from 6-10pm. Everyone is invited. Champagne and dancing to your heart's content!

**Somerville, MA** — Expressions offers a workshop for lesbians: Healing and Nurturing ourselves through a relationship ending. Info: 666-5697.

**Cambridge, MA** — "Attica," a dramatic film investigation of the 1971 prison uprising and massacre. Harvard Science Center Aud. D. 7 and 9pm. Info: 661-7376 or 497-0112.

**The deadline for Calendar items is Monday at noon for the following issue.....**